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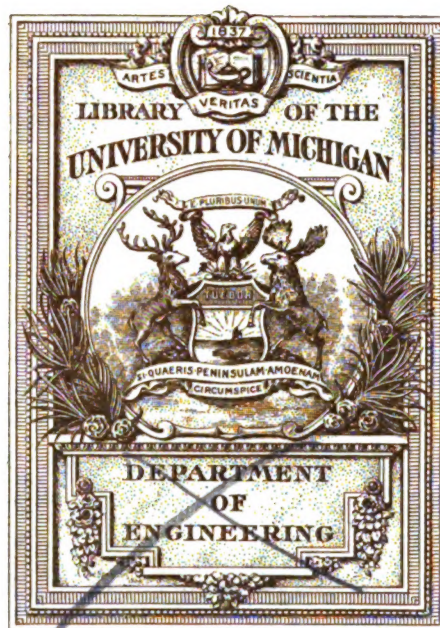
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# Bell Telephones

AND CONNECTIONS

## In the Territory of the Central Group of Companies

JULY 1, 1916

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Connected</u>	<u>Total</u>
ILLINOIS	613,081	274,601	887,682
OHIO	222,211	213,752	435,963
INDIANA	105,585	215,481	321,066
MICHIGAN	244,558	82,274	326,832
WISCONSIN	<u>163,722</u>	<u>142,452</u>	<u>306,174</u>
	1,349,157	928,560	2,277,717

# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

ONE POLICY

UNIVERSAL SERVICE

ONE SYSTEM

Volume 6

CHICAGO, ILL., AUGUST, 1916

Number 1

## "Phoney Phair" Delights Thousands of Telephone Employees

Members of Big Blue Bell Family in Detroit, Cleveland and Many Other Exchanges Enjoy Picnics, Outings and Summer Amusements.

*Such sights as youthful poets dream  
On summer eves by haunted stream.*  
—Milton.

When Bell telephone people work they work with a capital "W." The world of telephone users bears witness to the whole-hearted efficiency of their daily efforts.

When Bell telephone people play they put into their play the same snap and vim, which makes their work so effective.

It is the privilege of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS in this edition to chronicle a few of the larger amusement events of the summer, which have been conducted either by the companies for the employes or by the employes themselves.

The summer of 1916, almost breaking

all middle-west records for heat, has been long and trying. The telephone service, always in demand in time of unusual stress of any kind, has been kept up to its high standard in spite of the inconveniences and discomforts inevitable in hot weather. The operators at their boards and the linemen out in the sunshine, or under the baking city streets, have worked without complaint or thought of asking relief, content in the knowledge that they have contributed a large and important share to promoting the comfort of the subscribers. Their own share in the summer recreations and amusements has been enjoyed without in any way disturbing the vitally necessary service which they are engaged in giving. This is but one more evidence

of the splendid organization for service, which is one of the proud boasts of the Bell System.

Chicago Telephone employes and their families enjoyed an afternoon and evening of amusement July 15th at the "Phoney Phair." Michigan State telephone employes at Detroit and neighboring places held an all-day picnic at Bois Blanc Island on July 22nd. Employes of the Cleveland Telephone Company held a delightful picnic at Willough Beach, July 29th. Stories of these will be found in the following pages. The annual outing of the Milwaukee employes of the Wisconsin Telephone Company will be held August 17th. An account of this outing will appear in the September issue.



GREEK DANCE BY TRAFFIC GIRLS AT PONEY PHAIR, CHICAGO.

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INDIAN DANCE BY TRAFFIC GIRLS AT PHONEY PHAIR, CHICAGO.

**R**ECORDS have a fixed habit of yielding without a fight in Chicago, and particularly when the telephone is in the contest.

The "Phoney Phair," a midsummer outing for the employés of the Chicago Telephone Company and their families followed precedent and shattered all records for attendance, interest and enthusiasm. The Phair was staged at the old Cubs' Ball Park on the West Side, July 15th. During the afternoon and evening 25,000 happy men, women and children thronged the big park, watched the games, ate ice cream and "hot dogs," drank lemonade, danced and had a good time generally. It was the big Chicago Telephone family at play—carefree and determined to enjoy to the limit the attractions so liberally provided for their entertainment.

A visitor, who entered the gates of the big park that busy afternoon, found on all sides striking points of resemblance to the country fair, which is such a popular institution in mid-western America. Officialdom was there, designated by glittering badges. Leather-lunged barkers assailed the air with vociferous shouts of invitation to the awed and bewildered to shudder at the daring of the snake charmer, to witness the wild orgy of the Zulu dance, or congeal the blood in their veins at sight of the hideous Wild Man of Borneo. Then there was the "baby rack," where for a small investment (Mex) the husky with a clear eye and steady arm might win glory (and, if a child, a prize) by swatting the infant effigy in a vital spot and turning it upon its reluctant hinges. There were ponies for the kiddies to ride

and these did strenuous service day and evening. There was "Tony Spagett and da monk," a novelty fresh from (little) Italy adding realism and romantic melody to the medley of interesting sights and sounds. "Mamma's Angel Child," escaped as usual from parental authority, amused little ones and grown-ups with her mischievous antics. "Josh Cornlossel" and his wife, in for the day from Woodstock, excited great interest among their fellow

visitors at the circus and midway. The Troubadours, a white robed band of mandolin artists, discoursed harmonies, which would have made Seville itself sigh with envy. The Punch and Judy show, without which no country fair is complete, attracted spell-bound crowds throughout the day. And the inner man, woman and child found nothing lacking in the facilities of Cline's Cafeteria, which dispensed to all ticket holders steaming "hot dogs," ice cream cones, peanuts and lemonade. The photographer's booth, where all secured those inimitable souvenir photos which make us chuckle in years to come, was crowded at all times with delighted patrons. Everything necessary to a well-rounded fair was there and the realism was complete.



IRISH DANCERS AT PHONEY PHAIR.

#### Departmental Pageant Contest.

Interest in the program of the afternoon centered in the pageant contest of eight departments. A prize was offered to the department, which should arrange the best display, the prize to be awarded on the attractiveness of the showing and the cleverness with which it symbolized the activities of the department, either actually or as a travesty. The response to requests for entries in this contest had been prompt and enthusiastic.

The city traffic department, with L. W. Layton as director, selected, uniformed and drilled a band, which was labeled "Professor Maybe's Phoney Band," in affectionate mockery of our splendid musical director and his splendid company of real musicians. Applause was thunderous when this crowd of laughing maidens circled

# Folk Dances at the Honey Fair



1. The Maypole Dance, in which the American colors in sashes of red, white and blue, lent a dash of color to the costumes of rural England.



2. Slovak Dance in the quaint costumes of Hungary.



3. The French Minuet, reminiscent of the Colonial period.

4. The Finale, grouping the dancers of all nations effectively and beautifully.



5. The Dutch Dance, in which sixteen young women appeared in the picturesque costumes of old Flanders.

the field led by their doughty "director." During the march Mr. Moebius forsook for a few moments his own musicians and "directed" the music of the phoney band, while the young lady director took his place and baton before the musicians in the grandstand.

The accounting department, under the leadership of Mr. Grote, made a very creditable showing with its mammoth ledger, pens of heroic size and its pretty girl marchers.

The city maintenance department, with Mr. Miller in charge of the "planters and maids with their plants and spades," gave a real country fair atmosphere to the pageant, although the farmers were all of the stage variety.

The Suburban traffic department, with a beautiful young lady representing each district, made a showing, which raised high hopes in the breasts of suburban rooters, who felt that the display could not fail to win the trophy.

The Suburban plant department evoked tumults of applause with a display which symbolized the characteristics and activities of the different districts. "Father Dearborn," impersonated by J. C. Wylie, who, in point of years of service, is the oldest employé in the Suburban division, was shown with lines running to each district headquarters, which were, in turn, represented by groups of employés in characteristic costumes. Joliet, for instance, was easily identified when two convicts in prison stripes marched by. Elgin was identified by the large effigy of a watch, symbolizing one of the foremost industrial enterprises of that thriving city. A trim milkmaid and blue uniformed milkman proclaimed Woodstock, the center of the dairy district. Gary is a boom city (where the boom has endured). What, therefore, might better typify the genius of this district than an overgrown boy, almost bursting from his clothes. Evanston, the university city; Waukegan, the center of summer resorts; Wheaton, the home of golf and polo; LaGrange, a city of suburban homes; Harvey, a city of great factories, and other suburban district headquarters were represented by characteristic displays.



OLD ENGLISH FOLK DANCE, PHONEY PHAIR, CHICAGO.

The City commercial department pictured the growth in telephones during the past sixteen years, and also gave the spectators a chance to see a number of their "nickel chasers" in working costume. The construction department showed a long line of "Fords," each driver attempting to make more noise than the others. Following the machines was a wonderful "sixty-two cent" gun, mounted on a truck, and showing how thoroughly the construction department believes in preparedness.

#### Engineers Win Prize.

The engineers chose for their display "The Advancement of the Electrical Sciences," the said advancement having nothing on the advancement of the science of hustling displayed by the department in getting ready in two days for this event.

Historians were consulted, maps were drawn, telephone lines were built across the continent in less than record time, instruments that cost Messrs. Bell and Watson months of patient labor were built in a few minutes, and many other feats of equally stupendous character accomplished.

First came nine men drilled by W. H. Inbush, each with a large letter on his back and all arranged to spell the word "ENGINEERS." Then came a Chinaman carrying a mariner's compass indicative of the first practical application made of electricity and the first historical reference to

this science. This character was represented by H. S. Snyder. Following the Chinaman was a truck, on which was Newton and the falling apple from the observation of which he evolved the law of gravity. On the same truck was Dr. Gilbert, the founder of electrical sciences. These characters were ably represented by H. C. Howard and E. R. Osterberg. Third in the procession was Ben Franklin and his kite,

portrayed by F. H. Work. Then came Sir Humphrey Davy and the arc lamp, which symbolizes another step in the industry. He was represented by R. T. Cloud. Michael Farady and the galvanometer followed Sir Humphrey Davy, this character acted by E. Pennington. Then came the first telegraph line from Washington to Baltimore. The operators, B. H. Texter and C. D. Hoover, were in costumes of the period in which this line was in operation. The next truck brought the scene to the time of our own activities. This showed Alexander Graham Bell, together with models of the first telephone and the Centennial type of telephone. R. H. Bennett was in the title role. The last truck bore a model of the Transcontinental telephone line, representing the greatest achievement reached in the practical application of the electrical sciences. The gentlemen enjoying the amiable tête-à-tête across the continent of North America were G. J. Tussey and E. B. Rheim.

The judges, after much consultation, awarded the prize to the engineers, and the crowd, fully realizing the delicacy of their task, applauded their decision.

#### Phoney Phair Athletics.

"Jo" Loomis, the veteran athlete, hero of many strenuous contests in the cinder track, was on hand to act as starter in the athletic events, which absorbed the interest of a large number of the phair visitors. Harold Mench captured the one-hundred-yard dash, trailed by S. P. Gordon, second, and W. H. Ricker, third. The 220-yard dash went to Dan Brown, with Harold Mench, second, and A. MacMaster, third. W. H. Ricker took honors in the 440-yard run, with W. B. Felger, second, and S. P. Gordon, third. Frank Loomis was



SWEDISH FOLK DANCE, PHONEY PHAIR, CHICAGO.



victor in the 120-yard low hurdles; M. J. Carney, second, and Harold Mench, third. The one-mile run, a severe ordeal in the heat of that day, was captured by George Spiegelhauer, with A. B. Donlin, second, and J. B. Osburn, third. Harold Mench won the shot-put, hurling the heavy missile thirty-two feet four inches; R. D. Pearson was second and V. J. Ryan, third. R. Lanestrem was the prize high jumper, with A. MacMaster, second, and M. J. Carney, third. C. B. Thiel threw the fifty-six-pound weight eighteen feet eight and one-half inches, winning first prize in this event; A. H. Riggeman was second and V. T. Ryan, third.

Harold Mench won the pole vault, with C. D. Dick, second. A. MacMaster was victor in the broad jump, with S. P. Gordon, second, and C. D. Dick, third. Harold Mench, it will be seen, was the all-around champion of the day, winning 19 points, to 9 by his nearest competitor, A. MacMaster.

Miscellaneous races resulted as follows:

Cablemen—J. J. Kurt, first; W. Topendorf, second; A. Carron, third.

Repairmen—T. Jensen, first; Roy Day, second; F. J. Gallagher, third.

Installers—A. D. Swanson, first; A. Huntska, second; J. N. Ross, third.

Clerks—R. Krenz, first; G. G. Bradley, second; E. J. Quinn, third.

#### Picnic Races.

The picnic races as usual were great fun, and the vigor with which the contestants aspired to victory presages some rapid promotion into the ranks of "regular" athletes. Results of these races follow:

In the twenty-five-yard race for girls, seven and under, first place was won by Adel Uhler; second by Alice Davis, and third by Lillian Davis.

First place in the fifty-yard dash for girls, twelve years and under, was won by Helen Davis, second by Violet Taylor, and third by Pearl Goetz.

In the operators' fifty-yard dash Francis Duffy was awarded first place; second was merited by Miss Henderson, and third by Rose Duffy.

In the married girls'

fifty-yard dash first place was won by Mrs. H. Kuhlman, second by Mrs. R. Lee, and third by Mrs. C. P. Smith.

Single girls' fifty-yard dash—First place, Florence Keenan; second place, Florence Dunn; third, A. Van Sheltima.

Women's sack race—First place, C. Otchich; second, A. Wickbolt; third, M. Reum.

Ladies' paper bag race—First place, M. Reum; second, Margaret Jacobsen; third, Alma Fischer.

Men's sack race—First place, John Steenhoutzen; second, G. Swanson; third, H. Hauz.

Men's paper-bag race—First place, R. A. Burns; second, W. Ryan; third, L. F. Mahoney.

Potato race—First place, L. Jensen; second, Howard Hauze; third, Dan Moynahan.

Boys, under seven years—First place was won by James Martin; second by Charles Curry; and third by Raymond Walsh.

Boys of twelve years—First place, George Hanson; second, William Uhler; third, William Kara.

#### The Dancing Feature.

When the athletics and picnic events were finished at 5 p. m. dancing was enjoyed by those so inclined until the hour set for the evening festivities. To the stirring and inspiring strains of popular fox-trots, one-steps, waltzes and two-steps, rendered by the Bell Telephone Orchestra, several hundred couples whiled away the pleasant twilight intermission. A large dancing platform, containing four thousand square feet, had been prepared especially for the occasion and this was laid directly in front of the grandstand. Here old and young, long and short, stout and lean, troubadour, clown, phoney policeman and Scotch lassie mingled as they chased the golden hours with flying feet.

#### Bell Telephone News Extra.

During this period the crowds were taken by surprise by the appearance of an extra edition of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS containing a full account of the Phair with results of the athletic events up to 4:20 p. m. Many flattering comments were heard on the enterprise of the News, and the energetic "newsboys," who circulated the edition through the stands, were almost stampeded by demands for the extra, which shared interest with the dinner baskets.

#### Night Pageants.

Very effective preparations had been made to light the park and grandstands for the night events. Giant projectors threw a flood of light on the field, equal to 250,000,000 candle power, and under this blaze of illumination the grounds were as light as day.

The traffic department, always dependable when amusements are projected, furnished the entertainment of the evening.

As the rhythm of the dance seems to carry an almost universal appeal, particularly when the dancers are beautiful girls in costume, it was thought that if the folk dances were reproduced, particularly the May-pole dance, entertainment would be provided, which would be of interest to almost everyone.

The first tableau de-



JAPANESE DANCERS AT PHONEY PHAIR, CHICAGO.



"PROFESSOR MAYBE'S PHONEY BAND" AT PHONEY PHAIR, CHICAGO.

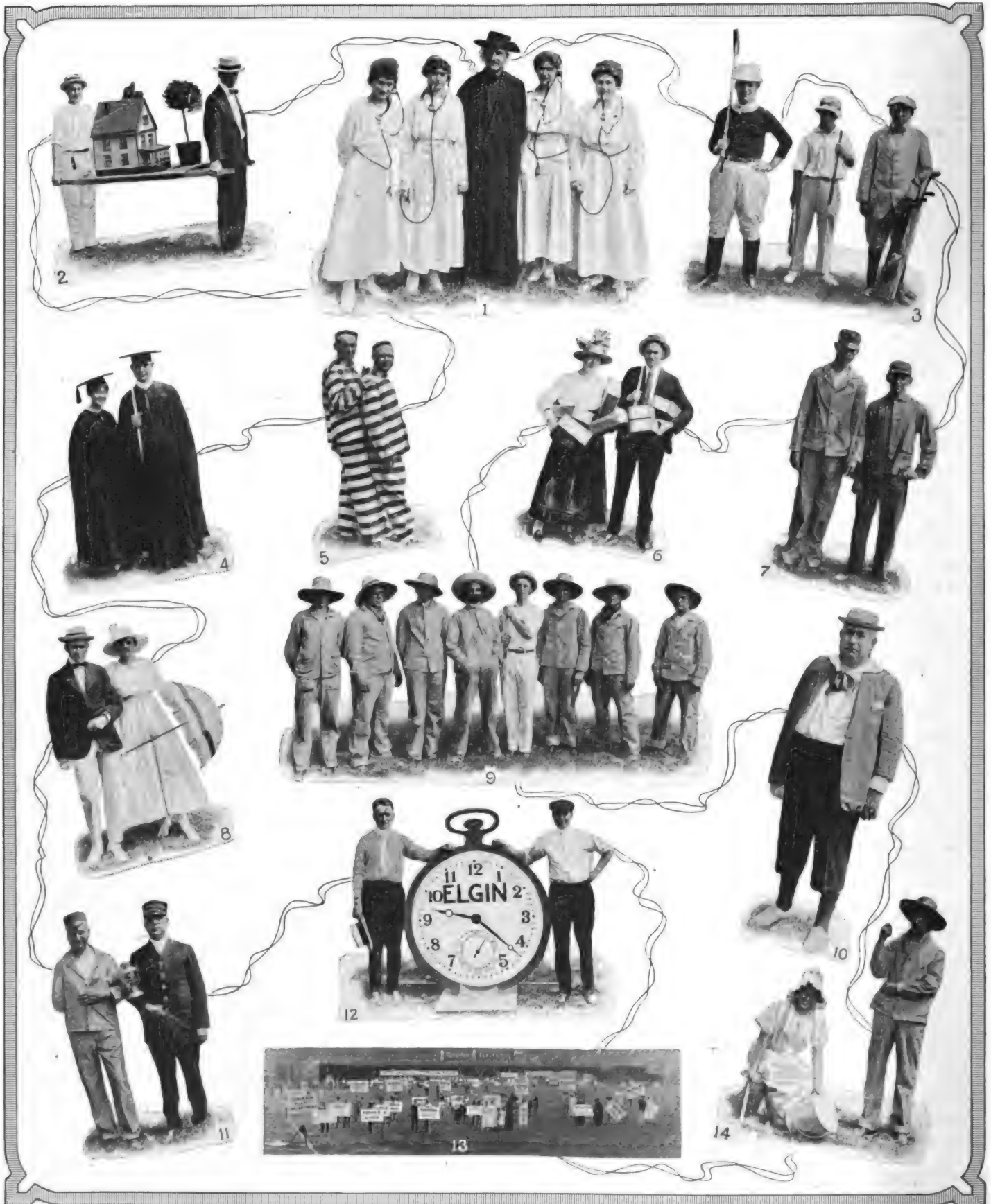


EXHIBIT OF SUBURBAN PLANT DEPARTMENT IN PHONEY PHAIR PAGEANT.

1. Father Dearborn and Toll. 2. Oak Park. 3. Wheaton. 4. Evanston. 5. Joliet. 6. La Grange. 7. Harvey. 8. Waukegan. 9. Farmer Lines. 10. Gary. 11. Hammond. 12. Elgin. 13. The whole display. 14. Woodstock.



STATE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS WHO DESIGNED PRIZE WINNING PAGEANT AND APPEARED IN COSTUME ON THE VARIOUS FLOATS.

Standing, left to right—E. D. Evans, E. B. Rhein, C. E. Pennington, C. A. Watkins, R. H. Bennett, C. R. Olson, F. H. Work, J. Wolf, W. H. Inbusch, R. T. Cloud, A. Rueff, H. C. Howard, E. T. Osterberg, G. Tussey, F. O. Proctor, C. Wortman, B. H. Textor, C. D. Hoover, J. J. Lyons.  
Middle row—J. J. O'Connell, J. J. Coyne, A. Carlson, W. F. Nichols, R. D. Ham.  
Front row—J. M. Humiston, **ENGINEER W. R. McGOVERN**, I. J. Swecney, M. J. Flyke.

picted America before the coming of the white man. Indian maidens danced to the Great Spirit, in supplication that their braves might bring home much game from the hunting trip. Then came a solo dance (by Miss Dunn of Lakeview) which typified the Spirit of Freedom, which abides in the great plains and forests of America and invites the people of the world, seeking freedom, to make their homes in the new world. The dances that followed were the folk dances of the old world, and were intended to show "that from across the waters came many strange people with the quaint ways and varied costumes of their native lands, and, coming under the broadening influence of a new freedom, became the American people." During this part of the program the English country dance, the Scotch, Swedish, Japanese, Dutch, German, Irish, French, Slovak, Maypole and Greek dances were given. The finalé brought in all the young women in their varied costumes and was intended to show that

America is the melting pot of all races. This was danced to "Yankee Doodle," "Dixie," and "The Star Spangled Banner." At the close balloons were released and, illuminated by spot lights, presented a very pretty effect.

These dances, perfect in their rhythmic beauty, showed the results of the careful training the girls had received at the hands of Mrs. Parsons, president

of the Chicago Normal School of Physical Education.

The festivities of the evening wound up with a splendid display of fireworks. Set figures showed "Old Glory," "The Telephone," "Mutt and Jeff," "Boxing Bout," "Yellowstone Geysers," and finally the



JOSH CORNTOSSEL AND HIS WIFE.

"Blue Bell," showing the well-known telephone emblem in outlines of colored fire.

#### Handling the Big Outing.

The Phair was conducted by three of the leading amusement and recreation organizations, the Players' Club, the Track and Field Association, and the Band and Orchestra. Each of the three had previously given entertainments, but the Phoney Phair was the first event which employed the talents and energies of all three. The general officers and heads of departments gave every encouragement and assistance. To exercise general supervision over the affair and the preparations for it, Vice President H. F. Hill appointed an advisory committee headed by S. J. Larned as chairman. This committee appointed sub-committees to arrange for the pageants, sports, and

other features, which were to make up the program of amusements. R. M. Bennett, president of the Track and Field Association, was appointed manager of the Phair.

Experts from State Engineer W. R. McGovern's office, as soon as arrangements to secure the ball park had been made by the grounds committee headed by F. R. Kasperek, worked out a careful plan for an athletic field, midway, refreshment booths, dancing platform and hospitals. Carpenters from the building department and electricians from the equipment department hammered and twisted zealously for several days, erecting booths for the Wild Man of Borneo, the snake charmer, the baby rack, the Zulu dance and other features of the midway, so that when the doors opened at 1 p. m., Saturday, everything was in readiness for the crowd, although nobody dreamed how big it would be. A member of the committee, who suggested 15,000, was told that a padded cell would be swept out for him. J. J. Coyne was chairman of the committee of engineers which laid out the grounds.

The transportation committee, of which Harry I. Thomas was chairman, made special arrangements with the elevated railroads and surface lines, and the crowds were transported to and from the park without difficulty.

The task of preparing the grounds for the event was no small one. For several days men from the building



SNAKE CHARMER FROM DELHI.



MAMMA'S ANGEL CHILD.

department worked from early morning until sundown, building the booths, the dance platform, installing thirteen extra comfort stations and sixty extra drinking fountains.

#### Advertising the Phair.

A committee on printing and publicity, headed by C. L. Norton, worked early and late spreading the news of the projected entertainment among the 13,000 employés. The effective work of this committee was shown by the big crowd in attendance. The committee printed 13,000 admission tickets, good for the holder and friends or family, and 20,000 coupon tickets for concessions.

T. E. Freeman was head custodian of the gates and distributor of tickets. He was assisted by seventy-seven men, who surely had their hands full all day and evening. News of free peanuts had filtered through the adjoining neighborhoods and many attempts were made by urchins to pass the doorkeepers without tickets or obtain precarious ingress over or under the fence. Many of these attempts were successful. A man with six children presented himself at one of the gates and sought admission, because he claimed he knew "Mr. Bell." But all troubles yielded before the firm but amiable treatment of Mr. Freeman and his forces.

When the crowds entered the gates they found a check room at their disposal. F. M. Rosseland was chairman of the committee in charge of this utility, and was assisted by eighteen men from different departments. Each one worked with great good will and some of them—not more than three or four—found it so interesting that they worked for a considerably longer period than they had expected. J. B. McLaughlin assumed personal direction of the first annex to the check room, which was opened about three o'clock in the afternoon when the main check room almost reached the point of saturation. "Mac's" annex proved to be very popular, and it was with difficulty that he could prevent his friends and admirers from stepping past him at the door and checking their own parcels. Probably



TONY SPAGETT  
AN' DA MONK.



ONE OF THE FLOATS IN ENGINEERS' PRIZE EXHIBIT.

"the most embarrassing moment of my life" occurred to Homer Bang when several perspiring mothers tried to check infants, sleeping and otherwise; to Mr. Plenner of the state engineering department when a certain person became very indignant when he refused to stand out in the passageway and guard a baby buggy, which was too large to bring into the check



PHONEY POLICE.

rooms; to Mr. Sullivan of the suburban commercial department when he had to refuse a pretty girl, who earnestly desired to check a "Ford"; and to Mr. McLaughlin when he tried to explain away a broken article. It was a matter of considerable regret to the various members of the committee that their appearance could have been so awe-inspiring as to prevent hungry telephone people from claiming their lunches. When the check room was finally closed about 11 p. m., six lunches were still uncalled for.

Twenty-four men, headed by O. W. Schroeder, acted as ushers in the big stands, and they succeeded in getting most of the visitors seated without sending in

a riot call. Seats in favored positions were in demand, but Mr. Schroeder's forces managed to satisfy almost everybody.

H. R. Cornell was chairman of the committee which arranged the athletic events. He was assisted in the field by J. W. Wolcott.

Lawrence Hill was chairman of the dance committee, and his assistants were selected from various departments and acted as floor committeemen. Their duties, however, were only nominal, as little supervision was necessary.

The lighting of the stand and grounds for the night events was under general supervision of A. P. Hyatt, chairman of the lighting committee. The equipment was installed and operated by the power and light branch of the maintenance department under direct supervision of C. C. Cunnard.

R. W. Sullivan received many compliments on the beautiful night pageant by the traffic department. Mr. Sullivan was chairman of the committee which originated and rehearsed this feature.

R. S. Pierce by himself was the committee on fire works and his efforts were most liberally applauded.

"Tom" Lambert, as the itinerant photographer, was a busy man all day. The product of his handiwork will decorate many a family album. Mr. Lambert and his assistants made and delivered 1,900 pictures of children between 2:30 and 6:30 p. m.

O. L. Halberg, starred in a dual rôle. As chief assistant to V. R. Lanestrem, chairman of the prize committee, he is entitled to a great part of the credit for the excellence and variety of the trophies offered to winners in the events. As an expert wheelman, he entertained the crowds during the afternoon by a performance on his "giraffe bike."

#### Gardeners' Exhibit.

Although the Gardeners' exhibit was an eleventh hour consideration, it was a great success and attracted a contin-



SQUEEZING  
LEMONS.



uous crowd throughout the day. About fifteen commuters of the various departments exhibited vegetables and flowers from their own gardens.

Messrs. Hyatt, Pierce, and Holloway, who were the sponsors of the exhibit, had the greatest varieties. V. Ray exhibited an attractive bunch of hollyhocks.

Mr. Rohrbeau, caretaker of the Operators' Recreation Park at Warrenville, brought in a fine exhibit of lettuce, radishes, beets, potatoes, etc., from the company's farm. He had the satisfaction of taking away a number of prize ribbons.

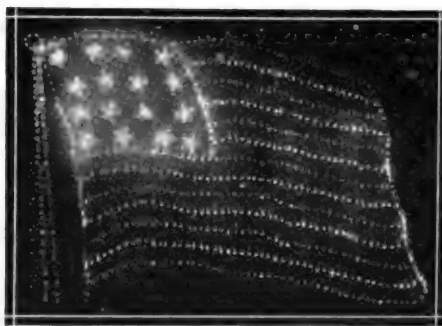
Mr. Farrington of the engineering department took the prize for novelty by exhibiting a hive of bees and honey from his place in Wheaton.

C. W. Schledorn received a blue ribbon for his beautiful collection of hybrid lark spurs.

The vegetables were sent to the County Hospital at the close of the exhibition.

#### Circus and Midway

The Circus and Side Show attractions, which rivaled the late P. T. Barnum's best



"OLD GLORY" IN FIREWORKS.

stables. Ten Kentucky thoroughbreds, each one in charge of a footman, were mounted by hundreds of children who clamored for rides. The footman handling each horse saw to it that no mishaps occurred and through the careful attentions of Mr. Spratt and his men these rides proved to be altogether delightful.

Ivor Tunnah was the Snake Charmer from Delhi. There were hosts of Clowns, Kops, and others too numerous to mention, who helped to keep the ball rolling. This club also supplied the children with clever souvenirs.

T. J. Hardy, the director of the Players' Club, supervised the various activities of the club and spent many days and nights helping prepare for the festivities.

#### Phoney Phair Hospital

About thirty-five people were taken care of at the hospital. Most of them, however, were only slightly ill, and required only treatment for headache, disturbed stomachs, etc. No one was really overcome by the heat. Three or four of the contestants and actors in the pageant suffered slight injuries which required attention.

The lost children kept the hospital busy and furnished considerable amusement. About twenty-five, ranging from three to nine years, were brought to the hospital. All but two of these could give their names and addresses and none of them were there more than about twenty minutes. The children seemed to be quite taken with the individuals who brought them to the hospital, and one young man who had brought in a child was compelled to stay at the hospital as the child refused to let go of him.

Mary Reuse was in general charge and four of the company's physicians were on hand, each working three or four hours.

H. W. French was chairman of the committee on policing and marshals. His men maintained a very watchful oversight of the crowd, but there was no accident or disturbance of any kind.

#### Feeding the Multitude

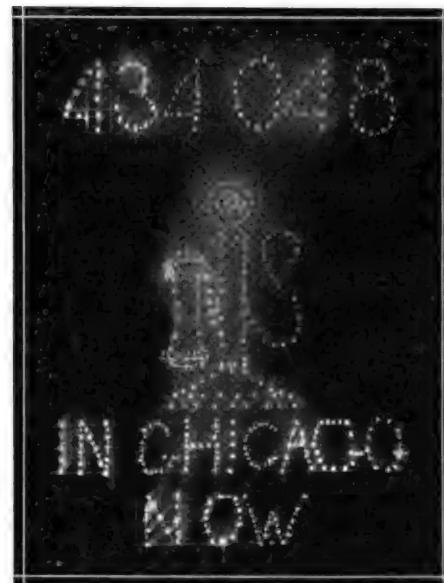
The tremendous size of the job of feeding 25,000 people in one afternoon and evening and the success with which the job was accomplished justify a few paragraphs of Chairman Robert Cline's report being printed in full.

Mr. Cline said:

"I had the good fortune to be a member

of the Phoney Phair Committee and as such was awarded by Chairman Bennett the job of furnishing and distributing the refreshments, which were to consist of peanuts, ice cream cones, lemonade, and hot dogs, which were to be given free of charge to children only. With this embargo, the task seemed easy, but later on it developed that the grown-ups might wish to participate, and if allowed to, would cause a serious over-run in my estimate and perhaps bankrupt the committee. When the developments were placed before Chairman Bennett, he decided to take care of the over-run by getting advance approval, which was taken care of by the selection of an advisory committee to wait upon Vice President Hill, who had patiently heard all the tales of woe and most graciously 'came across' with the advance approval of the supplemental estimate, which was made to take care of the inner man of the grown-ups as well as the children.

"After having received the approval of the original and supplemental estimates,



STATION REPORT IN LETTERS OF FIRE.

as well as an estimate of the attendance, it became my duty to estimate the requirements. This would have been simple under ordinary conditions, but considering the popularity attaching to anything the telephone family sets out to do, it was difficult to make a guess, as the actual attendance usually far exceeds the most sanguine forecast. However, an attendance of 15,000 was anticipated and estimates were made upon that basis, allowing a liberal portion for each person, which was slightly reduced when it became necessary to serve more than 20,000 instead of 15,000.

"The purchase of all supplies was under the direct supervision of H. A. Mott and the preparation and distribution under the supervision of C. S. Holloway assisted by Mr. Sexton in charge of the hot-dog booth. Mr. Hopkins in charge of the lemonade,



"THE BIG BLUE BELL."

offerings, as well as those of Coney Island, were produced by the Players' Club. The Parade, which was composed of the "Horribles," was a delightful and interesting spectacle. F. R. Kasperek, the chairman of the club, appeared as "Tony Spaggett," the organ grinder, and like Mrs. Castle, he carried in his wake a live monkey, both Monk and Tony being fully appreciated by the host of kiddies, as well as their escorts.

C. Earl Sutton impersonated "Esther, Mamma's Angel Child," to the delight of all. W. Crowley also had his hat in the ring—having a "bully" time in his gorgeous costume of a Toreador. The Wild Man of Borneo was enacted with vim and gusto by W. H. Chilvers. D. Rea was the Ballyhoo for this attraction and proved so entertaining that the various cops had to be called at regular intervals to shoo the crowds on into the tent.

W. Spratt had charge of the extensive

Dr. Dale in charge of the ice cream booth and Mr. Scherschel in charge of the peanut booth. In addition to the above assistance, practically the entire supply division force, consisting of 230 men, was used, augmented by sixteen girls from the general offices and other employes of the company."

"In the preparation of refreshments and on account of the rush, it was necessary to resort to some desperate tactics and fall back on implements used in the ordinary telephone work. In the case of the hot-dog booth, it was found that the gasoline stove was wholly inadequate, and it was, therefore, necessary to press into service half a dozen cable splicers' furnaces. In the lemonade booth, on account of the inadequacy of our lemon squeezer, it was necessary to resort to the use of a can and concrete tamper as illustrated by the photograph. All the work was done voluntarily by employes of the company with the exception of nine men furnished by the Hydrox Ice Cream Company to dip the cream into cones. Long before closing time these men became exhausted from continuous exertion, and we were obliged to replace them with volunteers from among our own employes. In order that the reader may get a general idea of the magnitude of the problem of furnishing refreshments for so vast a throng, some interesting figures will be quoted. It required fourteen truck loads, equivalent to twenty-one tons, to make the deliveries. Not included in this were eighty barrels of water used in making 50,000 glasses of lemonade. Twelve hundred and fifty pounds of sausage were used. The crowd consumed 3,500 pounds of roasted peanuts, twenty-four cases of lemons, six barrels of limes, three barrels of sugar, 650 gallons of ice cream, 40,000 cones, and used 30,000 sanitary drinking cups, and many other articles too numerous to mention. Employes engaged in the distribution of refreshments were dressed in white uniforms and the refreshment booths were kept scrupulously clean. While the amusements provided were liberally patronized and appreciated, it is not unfair to say that the quality of the refreshments served, together with the intense heat of the day, made the refreshment stands the popular features of the fair. The service was good, and I wish to extend my sincere thanks to all those who participated in the work. As I have yet to hear of a complaint, I have no hesitation in saying that my expression of appreciation voices the sentiment of all our friends and guests."

### Real Weather

Mr. Strecher: "Yes, it's cold, but nothing like what it was at Christmas three years ago, when the steam from the engine froze hard and fell on the line in sheets."

Mr. Cuffer: "And yet, that wasn't so cold as in '87, when it froze the electricity in the telephone wires, and when the thaw

came all the machines were talking as hard as they could for upward of five hours."

"Well, gentlemen," said Mr. Longbow, "the coldest year that I can remember was in the Christmas week in '84, when the very policemen had to run to keep themselves warm."

But that was too much, and with silent looks of indignation the other two left to his own reflections the man who treated the truth so lightly.—*Tit-Bits*.

### Instinct, Appetite and Summer Foods

By EDWIN F. BOWERS, M. D.

in *Western Electric News*.

Instinct and appetite turn up our noses and give us a "wavey" feeling in the stomach every time we sit down to a meal totally unfitted to the temperature. They do this because the educational advantages accumulated through an ancestry running back a million years or more are indefinitely more dependable than a brain-born diet table—dating back to the day before yesterday.

Instinct, which is really US, informs us that—a nice fat "gob" of pork, a liberal helping of beans, and a nourishing slab of mince pie are totally without charm when the thermometer is balancing on one foot on the ninety-degree mark.

We know, by that fine intuition that warned Falstaff when to be a coward, that the lack of appetite for heavy roasts, fats, starches and sugars, constitutes a definite index of just what we don't need, and ought not to eat during the torrid period.

On the other hand, we have a perfectly normal craving for fruits, salads, lean meats, and foods that furnish sufficient material for the repair of worn-out tissues—without, at the same time, giving the system more combustible material—fat, starch and sugar—than it can utilize.

For those who may lack the instinct which tells them what to use—also when and how often—it might be said that the total requirements for repair, energy-furnishing, and fire-box needs can be found in milk, butter, eggs, lean meats, green vegetables, whole wheat bread, and a reasonable amount of pie, farina, or cake. Ice cream is wholesome and nourishing, as are milk and custard puddings.

It is advisable to exercise caution in the use of raw fruit—especially if there is a tendency toward fermentation or intestinal indigestion. But the juice of half a lemon, taken on rising in the morning, has an excellent effect on the liver, and makes this big gland lie down and roll over with delight.

Also, while the system requires liberal quantities of water at all times, during the heated season—when the loss of water from the body through perspiration is markedly increased—more liberal quanti-

ties should be drunk. While three pints of water is ordinarily a fair daily allowance, during the summer this amount can be increased to four or five pints—and nothing but good will result.

In short, mix your food, work, and drink with brains. And don't be afraid to trust the age-old instinct that says "Excuse me" to anything it has to make a face at.

### Mr. Vail's Advice to Graduates

In an address at the commencement exercises of Lyndon Institute and the School of Agriculture at Lyndon Center, Vt., June 16th. Theodore N. Vail, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, gave some wholesome advice to the graduates.

"While all men are not born with equal endowments, either physical, mental or material," he said, "if one makes the best use of all that which he does possess, he will create for himself equality and even superiority, and make for himself a far more satisfactory life than many more liberally endowed who do not.

"We are apt to look upon the possession of many things which we do not have as necessary to happiness and enjoyment of life, but if you lead a rational life, one of reasonable industry, if you exercise reasonable carefulness in the expenditure and use of your energy or property, take reasonable care of your mind and body, keeping them clean and healthy, and do not abuse your mind with unhealthy imagining or thoughts, or your body with excessive indulgence, you will have all that makes for real enjoyment, and as much opportunity for it as anyone could possibly have.

"You will early come to realize that the greatest enjoyment in life is in the accomplishing, not in the accomplishment," said Mr. Vail. "Great acquisitions and high positions have their burdens and responsibilities. Too much ambition or desire is oftentimes accompanied by discontent, and almost always followed by disappointment."

### "Are You Theah?"

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, who was in Chicago two days last week on his way to California, where he is going to act in several moving picture plays, complained with deep feeling of the American telephone habit. "Americans seem to do nothing," said Sir Herbert, "but sit about with a telephone in their hands, calling one another up. And they say, 'Hello,' a very violent, nerve-racking word, instead of the much softer and more pleasing expression, 'Are you there?' as we say in England. I attempted to introduce this expression, but the first time I asked, 'Are you there?' over the 'phone, the man at the other end replied very brusquely, 'Where in Hades do you think I am?' only he did not say Hades. You are a most peculiar people." —*Denver Post*.

### Annual Outing of Telephone Society of Michigan

Joy reigned unconfined among Detroit employés of the Michigan State Telephone Company Saturday, July 23rd. It was the day of their annual picnic and had been declared a general holiday for company employés by order of the general manager. The morning dawned warm, bright and clear, foretelling just the kind of a day

merry-making began. Some were content to seek recreation sitting in the cool breeze as the boat made for the down-river resort. Others paraded about seeking what friends they might find for a pleasant little chat. But among the younger set there was no substitute for the ever popular dance, despite the unusually warm weather that prevailed. Mr. Deeds and Mr. LaFollette, telephone company employés, added greatly to the pleasure of the occasion by their clever cabaret numbers, delightfully rendered. Accompanied by the orchestra,

The only untoward incident of the occasion was the arrest of several men prominent in the affairs of the telephone company. A. J. Peckham, commercial superintendent, had appointed himself chief of police for the day. He believes thoroughly in observing proper dignity and decorum at all times and several who so far forgot their lofty station as to infringe upon what Chief Peckham approved were forced to submit to arrest and to pay heavy penalties. Mr. Kittredge served as police magistrate and fined those brought before him



NOONTIME AT BOB LO.

the telephone people had wished for, ideal for picnic purposes, and hundreds of the company's employés, together with their families and friends, took advantage of the opportunity to enjoy an outing at Bois Blanc, the famous resort at the head of Lake Erie and one of the most popular near Detroit.

Long before it was time for the steamer *Columbia* to leave her moorings at the foot of Bates street, the vanguard of the picnic party began to arrive. As time wore on, the numbers grew until shortly before the time for starting, the dock presented the most animated scene that was ever witnessed on a similar occasion. The little blue bells containing the program for the day and bearing the name of the wearer, together with that of his department, were in evidence everywhere. A jolly, fraternal spirit prevailed and it was as though the various branches of a big family were setting out for their annual reunion.

As soon as the boat left the dock, the

they responded to encores most generously and seemed bent on doing all within their power to make the day thoroughly enjoyable for everybody. There is no question but they succeeded admirably.

The committee on arrangements, headed by M. C. Glass, deserves great credit for the plans for the entertainment of the crowd and its efforts to make the picnic a success. About 2,000 tickets entitling the holders to free service at refreshment stands were distributed among the employés of the company and their families. The ice cream and ginger ale stands were popular places. Toy balloons were in demand among grown-ups as well as children, and Mr. Glass had no end of fun distributing them among the clamoring crowd. Cigars and tobacco had been taken along in quantities large enough to supply the demands of the most inveterate smokers, but Canadian customs officials refused to permit them to be taken on the island, which is owned by the Dominion government.

without fear or favor, stern but just judge that he was.

It chanced that as Chief Peckham was patrolling the boat, Mr. Fairman was having too hilarious a time, dancing with all the pretty girls who would dance with him; in fact, monopolizing the attention of a certain few. He was haled before Judge Kittredge and sentenced to buy ginger ale for the entire police department.

Mr. Bradshaw, traffic superintendent, met a similar fate when he was caught by a member of the squad chatting all too gaily with a fair maiden. The severity of the penalty mounted as offenses began to pile up and reached a climax when Mr. Dakin, who had been bold enough to walk around under a Jap parasol with a lady on either side, was pulled away from his fair companions, brought before the magistrate and sentenced to buy ginger ale and ice cream for a score or more who had flocked before the judgment seat, which, in this case, happened to be the refreshment stand.



## SCENES AT DETROIT PICNIC.

1. Balloon race. 2. A Happy Octette. 3. Messrs. Sharpe, Russell and Glass distributing candy to children. 4. The tug of war. 5. A jolly dinner group. 6. A group of service observers.



No time was lost getting the program of the day in motion after reaching the island. Picked teams representing the construction and installation departments and one from the maintenance department immediately prepared for a contest on the diamond. Literally baked under the broiling sun, the men found it extremely difficult to negotiate a game of seven innings and several had to retire before even the seven innings had been played. Nevertheless, there was much ginger and pep in the game, which afforded entertainment for devotees of the great American sport. The Construction-Installation team won by a score of 14 to 9. The feature of the game was a home run by Flynn of the first-named aggregation. It came in the last inning, making the second run earned by Flynn. Vail of the same team was credited with three runs and proved the star performer of the day. A beautiful silver loving cup was presented the winning team. A photograph of the teams is shown below.

While the ball game was in progress, the rest of the crowd was kept going under the able leadership of C. G. Sharpe, plant superintendent, assisted by other department heads and aides. Seeking protection against the sizzling sun under a little Jap umbrella, Mr. Sharpe was everywhere, trying to keep the crowd in the best of humor and starting one thing after another to accomplish his purpose. He was singing director, dancing master, organizer of parades, all in rapid succession. At one time he succeeded in bringing together a quartette of fairly respectable voices which sounded pretty well except when Mr. Slack struck an unusually high falsetto while



ONE OF THE GROANING TABLES.

striving for a real artistic effect.

Thoroughly enjoyable nonsense filled the time till the hour for lunch had arrived. Married people had come well provided with lunch boxes and baskets. Mr. Slack, as head of the commissary department, had provided additional edibles and no one who had come empty handed was allowed to depart in that condition. If he did, he had none but himself to blame. There were good things to eat in abundance. Before the appetites had been well enough satisfied to permit the crowd to scatter, the camera man was on the job and snapped those grouped about the tables under the trees. At 1:30 the official photograph of the picnic was taken with the telephone people arranged in a great semi-circle. The movie man was on hand also to take pictures for the *Ford Animated Weekly*, which were later shown in Detroit motion picture houses. F. E. Quick of the American Commercial Photo Company operated the camera, and pictures are by courtesy of that company.

The afternoon boats brought additional

hundreds. Among the late arrivals was G. M. Welch, general manager, whose official duties had detained him during the morning hours. Several from out in the state also put in an appearance, prominent among them being Ben R. Marsh, district manager at Lansing, and E. W. Leet, district manager at Jackson.

At 2:30 the big events of the day started. These were novelty races that had been especially arranged for the occasion, with suitable prizes for the winners. Mr. Sharpe was in charge of the program and ran it off in quick time, assisted by Mr. Peckham, Mr.

Hurlbut, Mr. Macfarlane, Mr. McComas and others.

The first event on the program was the toy balloon race. Each contestant was given a toy balloon and a big palm leaf fan with which to drive it down the course. It was a favorite contest for officials to enter. George J. Brett, division auditor of receipts, brought his balloon across the tape first and won a box of cigars. Agnes Wright, of the plant department, took first among the ladies, a two-pound box of candy. Mr. Bradshaw, traffic superintendent, was numbered among the also-rans.

The ball throwing contest for ladies proved very enjoyable. Blanche Monette, a West operator, threw the ball 154 feet and won a silk waist pattern. Miss Kenney was second with a throw of 148 feet, winning a pair of silk stockings.

George Wohlgenut, of the plant department, was victor in the shoe race and won an order for a pair of shoes. Carl Krause, another plant man, took second, a box of holeproof socks. The contestants had taken off their shoes and thrown them in a pile.



BALL TEAMS AT DETROIT PICNIC.  
Plant Chief Henry Dakin in center.

The first one to find his own pair of shoes and to return with them on was declared the winner.

The thread-a-needle race was for couples, the man racing from one end of the course, thread in hand, presenting to a lady at the other end, the thread to be put through the eye of the needle she held in her hand. Gladys Furton, of the revenue accounting department, was the first to get a needle threaded. A belt was her reward. Miss Monette took second, winning a pair of silk hosiery.

In the peanut race, for girls under twelve, Eva Capp, ten years old; Margaret Kerwin, nine years old, and Edna Palmer, aged seven, were the winners. A two-pound box of candy was awarded each. Not to leave an aching void in any child's heart, Mr. Glass had arranged to give a half-pound box of candy to each little girl, which he did, while the movie man was focusing his camera upon the little group.

Mr. and Mrs. John McCormick proved most adept in the necktie race and added an electric flatiron to their trophies. Mr. and Mrs. F. Rimmer won second, an electric toaster. Both men are in the plant department.

Carl Crause and Jack Hayde proved most fleet of foot in the three-legged race, winning a box of cigars apiece. Edmund Burns and Enoch Jackson, also plant men, received a pipe and some tobacco for winning second place.

A silk dress pattern went to Sarah Leitch, revenue accounting department, for winning the egg race. Hilda Dietz was the second to arrive at the tape with an egg lying securely in a table spoon. She received some china as an award.

The cigar race proved a difficult one to negotiate. The men were given a cigar and some matches. The cigar had to be lighted while running. Scott Haggitt, plant department, was the first to hit the tape with his cigar smoking in approved fashion. He received a box of fifty cigars for the feat. Jack Hayde was second and received a box of twenty-five cigars.

Louise Lewis, of the revenue accounting department, won the 50-yard dash for girls eight to twenty years old. The award was a silk shirtwaist pattern. Hazel Cross was second and received a pair of silk stockings.

In the seventy-five-yard dash, for boys ten to fourteen years of age, Wilfred Davis came off victor, with a baseball glove as his prize. Elliott Kaufman, second, was awarded a baseball.

Louise Lewis won another first in the fifty-yard dash which was run backwards. The prize was a pair of silk hose. Rita Noyes, a Walnut operator, carried off a pair of silk gloves as second honors. In the regular fifty-yard dash, Miss Lewis and Aileen O'Connor took the first prize, a Brownie vest pocket camera. Bessie O'Connor and Elma Hawthorne were second in their respective heats, silk stockings being the prizes.

In a tug-of-war between ten picked men representing the installation-construction and maintenance departments, a box of cigars was at stake for each man on the winning team. The first mentioned were captained by Ed Davis and the latter by Ray Osgood. Davis' men got the pull on their opponents and were able to retain it throughout the contest, pulling them across the line within a few minutes.

A line-throwing contest concluded the program of events for the afternoon. Each contestant was given two hundred and twenty-five feet of hand line to throw over a wire thirty-five feet high. Richard Murphy succeeded in getting one hundred and seventy feet of the line over the wire, winning a belt for the performance. Scott Haggitt got one hundred and sixty-five feet across and won a pair of Klein pliers.

Dancing, boating and bathing were enjoyed by a large number of the picnic party throughout the afternoon. It was a day chock-full of fun for everybody and it was the universal opinion among the tired but happy crowd aboard the boats returning to Detroit that the 1916 telephone picnic was an unqualified success.

### The Rising Cost of Manufacturing Materials

By A. L. SALT

Vice-President and General Purchasing Agent, Western Electric Company.  
Reprinted from *Western Electric News*.

Readers of the *News* have undoubtedly seen in the daily papers and trade journals numerous references to the increasing cost of a great many commodities and I believe that they will be interested to learn that the present purchasing power of one dollar, as compared with what it was August 1, 1914, is about 48.6 per cent. In other words, to-day's average cost of the following commodities is \$1 as compared with 48.6 cents before the beginning of the great European struggle:

Material.	Increase, Per cent.
Acids . . . . .	15
Aluminum . . . . .	108
Antimony . . . . .	538
Batteries, dry . . . . .	68
Brass, rod and sheet . . . . .	174
Copper . . . . .	126
Dyestuffs . . . . .	200 to 2,000
Fiber . . . . .	113
German silver . . . . .	105
Hardware, pole line—	
Crossarm bolts . . . . .	175
Crossarm braces . . . . .	274
Guy clamps . . . . .	160
Lead, pig . . . . .	94
Lumber . . . . .	20
Paper, cable . . . . .	70
Platinum . . . . .	98
Rings, aerial . . . . .	39
Rubber, crude . . . . .	same
Silk, spun . . . . .	65
Silk, tussah . . . . .	36
Spelter . . . . .	216
Steel, Bessemer billets . . . . .	123
Strand . . . . .	77
Thread, linen . . . . .	158

Tin . . . . .	66
Tinsel . . . . .	25
Vermillion . . . . .	167
Vitriol, blue . . . . .	329
Wire, iron telegraph . . . . .	20
Wire, outside distributing . . . . .	19
Wire, bridle . . . . .	35
Wire, inside . . . . .	27
Yarn, cotton . . . . .	same

These figures are based on market values of each item over a period of approximately twenty months, and can be traced principally to the following causes:

(1) Decidedly increased requirements in Europe of hundreds of items which cannot be supplied there.

(2) Enormous orders placed in this country by European powers for war munitions, motor vehicles, horses, mules, uniforms, foodstuffs, machinery, leather products, iron and steel, etc.

(3) Imports and exports curtailed by embargoes and other restrictions making it difficult, and, in some cases, practically impossible, to obtain certain materials from abroad.

(4) Suppliers loaded up with orders in the execution of which they are unable to obtain machinery and tools.

(5) Transportation facilities taxed to the limit necessitating freight embargoes and causing long delays in transit.

Data from *Bradstreet's* shows that on thirteen general headings embracing 106 commodities, the average increased cost is approximately 34.2 per cent over August 1, 1914, as follows:

	August 1, 1914.	June 1, 1916.	Per cent.
Breadstuffs . . . . .	.0913	.1093	20
Livestock . . . . .	.4700	.4755	1
Provisions . . . . .	2.2438	2.5248	12½
Fruits . . . . .	.1647	.2511	52
Hides and leather . . . . .	1.3800	1.8550	34
Textiles . . . . .	2.3829	2.9973	26
Metals . . . . .	.5542	.9626	74
Coal and coke . . . . .	.0067	.0079	18
Oils . . . . .	.3585	.5224	45½
Naval stores . . . . .	.0792	.0709	*10
Building materials . . . . .	.0822	.1087	32
Chemicals and Drugs . . . . .	.6046	1.4945	147
Miscellaneous . . . . .	.2906	.3087	6
	8.7087	11.6887	34.2

\*Decrease.

It will be noted, however, that this last table contains a great many items which are not included in our list, on which the present purchasing power of \$1 is somewhat greater than our figure.

It is a fact that the country's industries for more than a year—that is, since the outbreak of hostilities—have been at their wits' ends to keep consumers supplied, due to the unprecedented demand for material of all kinds—especially the classes entering the arts. The cost of real necessities of life, however, and even some luxuries, has not increased to anything like the same extent, notwithstanding the fact that they are surrounded by similar conditions of consumption at home and abroad, and on such items we find that the present purchasing power of a dollar more nearly equals that prevailing before the war.

### Cleveland Telephone Employees' Twenty-Fourth Annual Outing

It was Cleveland Telephone Day!

It was A. T. & T. Day!

It was Western Electric Day!

It was Saturday, July 29th!

Eighteen hundred telephone employees, including friends and families, wended their way singly and in groups, by suburban car and auto, to Willoughbeach Park, and enjoyed the twenty-fourth annual outing given by the telephone employees.

Any attempt to describe the events of the day in logical order would be like trying to describe the performance at a three-

McSweeney and Minnie Spencer proved to be the prize two-steppers and Peter Barrett and Edith McGrath were close seconds.

No picnic is complete, of course, without its athletic contests, and the events arranged by A. Dombrosky of the sports committee were original and exceedingly interesting.

Imagine fifteen young women attempting the difficult task of eating a large cracker and whistling thereafter in the shortest space of time. Or another group of telephone girls trying to chew up a yard of string with a piece of candy tied on the end. The women, however, did not furnish all the amusement. One event that kept the crowd in an uproar was a pole climbing contest for men. The pole was only fifteen feet high, but very smooth,

prize went to Marie Sted, who landed the ball at the 235-foot line. Both young women gave exhibition throws after the contest and did better than on the first attempt.

Even the fat men were called upon to give an exhibition of their prowess, and in their annual 100-yard dash a demonstration of speed was given that surprised their most ardent admirers. Joe Hefner of the Maintenance division hurled his 205 pounds across the line first and C. O'Connor of the Construction division flung his 215 pounds against the grandstand with such force that several boards were loosened. The committee awarded him second prize.

The prize that brought forth the greatest amount of effort and that kept several



ANNUAL OUTING OF CLEVELAND TELEPHONE EMPLOYEES.

ring circus. There was something doing in every part of the park at the same time.

The telephone employees are aware of the fact that picnics are the rightful inheritance of children and the committee made a special effort to please the youngsters.

Every child on the grounds took part in a parade early in the afternoon, and as they passed the reviewing stand, each boy and girl was presented with a fancy paper hat, a "mama" horn, a carnation, "squaker" and a strip of complimentary tickets.

When those two hundred youngsters got busy with their "mama" horns, it sounded as if every child in the universe had lost its mother. Later on a good many of these horns reached grown-up members of the families, and they were used to good advantage in the grandstand while the ball game was in progress.

The Cleveland Telephone team played the Perfection Spring team, and the telephone boys lost 7 to 1. Possibly the fact that they had their picture taken before the game may have unnerved them, or it may have been the presence of their sweethearts and friends. At any rate, the wail of the "mama" horns was very appropriate for the occasion.

While the ball game was being watched by hundreds of baseball "fans," the dancing pavilion was crowded by hundreds of dancing "fans," all eager to see who would win the afternoon dancing contest. A. W.

and it tapered down instead of up. All that was necessary to win the prize was to climb hand over hand to the top, remove a paper Bell badge, and return to the ground in the shortest space of time.

This proved to be enough, however, and after twenty-five men had tried it, a tie resulted between Repairman Webster and E. N. Simison of the Newburg Test Station. They both performed the difficult task in seven and one-fourth seconds. On second trial Webster reduced his previous record to six and one-fourth seconds and Simison to seven seconds.

The women showed greater accuracy in throwing a baseball than some of the players in the afternoon game, and by throwing a ball through a hole in a suspended sheet, three times in succession, Mrs. H. A. Kuehle of the Western Electric won first prize. Mrs. Fred Saxby put on too much "drop" so she had to be contented with second prize.

Not only were the women accurate, but they also won great applause in the long-distance throwing contest. This was quite a remarkable exhibition as it completely upset the old theory that a woman cannot throw. When Rhea Riedel stepped up to the line, grasped the ball like a professional pitcher, and sent it hurling through the air for a distance of 250 feet, the mightiest cheer of the afternoon broke forth from the grandstand. The second

hundred people busy all day was the one offered to the person who could locate "The Miss who had the Missing Transcontinental Message."

Elizabeth Blaseg, order clerk at Main office, escaped all pursuers until late in the evening, when she was captured by Lillie McSweeney, chief operator's clerk at Main office. These two girls had been together all afternoon, but not until evening did Miss McSweeney decide to ask her companion if she was the Missing Miss.

Those who remained until evening were rewarded by an excellent open air concert given by the Cleveland Telephone orchestra under the direction of Carl Updegraf. The orchestra was very ably assisted by the company's two well-known vocalists, Marie Lehman and Richard Haggerty. Both the orchestra and the singers gave a very artistic and pleasing rendition of the numbers selected for the occasion, and after the hurly-burly of the day, the evening concert afforded a most pleasing contrast.

The only prize event of the evening was a waltz contest and the judges decided that in addition to being a good ball player, Jack Gaffney was also a good waltzer. Marie Yost assisted him in winning first prize. F. B. Wurm and Miss Masterson were awarded second prize.

The arrangements for this very successful outing were made by a committee of

employés selected by Norman Anderson, traffic superintendent, who acted as chairman. The various activities of the picnic were supervised by the following employés: S. C. Moule, treasurer; J. J. McCarty, grounds; C. D. Folsom, auditor and transportation; A. Dombrosky, sports and prizes; Minnie Spencer, ladies' and children's committee; W. F. Johnson, publicity.

#### Picnic Gossip

John Maitland and H. D. Jones gave a preliminary exhibition of how the tug-of-war should be conducted. They demonstrated so thoroughly that John Maitland found it necessary to send his palm beach suit to the dry cleaner's on Monday to have sundry grass stains removed.

R. G. Pate, commercial superintendent, asked one hundred and eleven individual women in the grand stand if they were the Miss who had the missing transcontinental message. He neglected to ask the one hundred and twelfth young woman and she was it! Too bad, R. G.

Allard Smith and party had a breakdown while homeward bound in their auto. After the chauffeur had tinkered around for a while they decided to come in on the suburban car. This proved to be a wise decision as the auto and a basket of miscellaneous leftover picnic sandwiches did not reach the city until 2:00 a. m.

The only man who kicked about the field contests was the photographer. He was afraid the sun would set before he got an opportunity to group the crowd and snap them. The picture shows that his fears were ungrounded.

General Manager Allard Smith very generously arranged to refund the transportation of twenty-five cents on all children's tickets. Mr. Wessener of the plant department took charge of the refund booth and he states that in his opinion the most pleasant occupation a man could choose would be refunding money to children.

W. F. Johnson, of the publicity committee, was introduced to a new form of publicity when asked to lead the children's parade with a bass drum. The drum stick was missing and he had to choose between a baseball bat and a megaphone. He decided to use the megaphone. Jack Dean held up the front end of the drum.

Kittie Casey, chief operator at Marlo office, shared her seat on the home-bound car with two other people. An unexpected curve transferred Miss Casey to the middle of the aisle. Her vacation started the following day so she had plenty of time to recuperate.

Harry Armbrecht says that acting as judge of a prize dance contest is much more difficult than acting as chief clerk of the commercial department. At least twenty-five different people advised him that his decision was wrong inasmuch as he did not pick out their particular friend as the prize winner. He suggests giving a prize to each couple on the floor. Attention, Committee!

Employés of the auditing department consumed ninety-six bricks at the picnic—not building bricks but ice cream bricks. This treat was donated to the employés by Auditor F. B. Brett and District Accountant C. D. Folsom. The auditor's force spent all day at the Beach, the morning being taken up by a bathing party.

Esther Rhinhardt advised her girl friends previous to the picnic that she was going to bring her "little cousin George" along. The young ladies were all very much surprised when a young man six feet tall was introduced to them as "little George."

Mae Gibbons reports that she almost won the prize waltz. The judges picked out a couple that was dancing right next to her. Pretty close.

Some practical joker gave the Misses Nietzel, Roseweld and Kuzell picnic sandwiches with a filler of rubber bands. They say it was more embarrassing than trying to eat noodle soup with a knife.

### Working Plans

By a Chicago Supervisory Official

To accomplish results we must have definite objects in view.

We must know for what we are striving.

We must have a plan of action.

We must be familiar with that plan of action.

The results depend upon the force of the action.

The force of the action depends upon unity of action.

Unity depends upon personal coopération. Coopération in action requires unity of desire.

Unity of desire must make discipline.

Unity of desire must be in conformance with natural principles.

Coopération cannot be maintained by force of discipline.

\* \* \* \* \*

The only causes for dismissal are immorality and willful negligence of duty.

A mistake is a cause for correction.

Correction must be instruction, not discipline.

Repeated mistakes denote lack of capacity.

Men may have capacity at one class of work and be failures at another.

Capacity is a combination of ambition, ability and knowledge.

Ambition is the result of self interest.

Ability is the ambitious application of knowledge.

Knowledge is obtained by instruction and study.

Instruction and study develop interest.

\* \* \* \* \*

The workman can perform well, if within the limit of his capacity.

The workman should be assigned only to work which is within the limit of his capacity.

The boss can increase the capacity by instruction.

The boss is the instructor not the taskmaster.

### The Telephone in Japan

Japanese operators sit on the floor during the periods they spend in the rest room, so that the problem of furnishing rest rooms in Japanese exchanges is a very simple one indeed. The seating capacity is limited only by the floor space.

Besides a few pictures on the walls, the rest room has a reading table. But such a reading table! It is so low that it looks more like a long stool than a table. The top, of course, must be low enough to permit the girls to sit on the floor and make use of the table.

The switchboards are quite modern, but here again the operators' welfare is apparently a very secondary consideration. The Japanese maidens sit on round topped stools, without backs. One type of stool in service is similar to the counter stools that are used in American department stores. Another type, having a plush top and three legs, resembles the stools used by motor-men.

Japan's telephone growth has been very rapid in recent years and they probably have not had time, as yet, to give due consideration to the welfare of the most important unit of a telephone system—the operator. There are at present in the land of the "chairless rest rooms" 130,000 applicants waiting for telephone service. We are unable to state how many operators are waiting for something better than floor space to sit on.

### New Western Electric Executive Offices

The executive departments of the Western Electric Company, Incorporated, at New York, moved on June 5th from 463 West street to new offices in the Telephone and Telegraph Building at 195 Broadway.

The move was made necessary by the steady growth of the company's engineering departments, which will occupy the space that has been vacated. The change also brings the executive departments in closer touch with the heart of New York's business district.

### Obituary

W. R. PATTERSON, who had been, previous to his retirement seven years ago, plant engineer of the Western Electric Company, died July 19th at his home in Chicago.

Mr. Patterson entered the employ of the Western Electric in 1877. He devoted several years to the study of cable manufacture and developed the "Patterson" cable, which for many years was generally accepted in the electrical industry as the term descriptive of lead sheath cable.

The patent office records eighty-five patents to Mr. Patterson's credit.



### Preparedness Parade in Milwaukee

Anyone who saw the telephone section of Milwaukee's Preparedness Parade on July 15th could not help but be convinced that the Wisconsin Telephone Company believes in practical preparedness to do whatever work there is at hand whether in time of peace or of war. There would be no reason for them calling "Information" to find this out. The *esprit de corps* of the whole company was ample evidence of the fact.

Hundreds of subscribers and friends heaped congratulations upon the officials

were marching past Governor Philipp, a little ragamuffin about eight years old called out "Slute de Guvnor, ladies." The girls "sluted de Guvnor" by raising their prettily colored parasols in the air. Captain Schilling also had discovered the governor's presence in ample time to have his battalion tender a graceful umbrella salute to His Excellency as it marched by.

There were many individual stars in this immense human panorama of over 30,000 souls, but as we said before, public opinion seems to single out the Wisconsin Telephone Company for having the most evenly developed all-star cast. And of this all-

large American flag. This striking conception, the idea of Thomas S. Bell, commander of the Telephone Division, was rewarded with liberal applause, especially in the downtown district."

Staff Officer William Knowles, who directed the parade from preparedness headquarters at 135 Grand Avenue by means of the telephone service furnished by the Wisconsin Telephone Company, was very enthusiastic about the way this part of the program was handled.

A complete field system of telephones was furnished. This included twenty-seven stations on the line of march, five



HEAD OF WISCONSIN TELEPHONE DIVISION, MILWAUKEE PREPAREDNESS PARADE.

and employes the day following the parade. Over 150 people called up Lake office alone for the purpose of expressing their hearty congratulations and the other Milwaukee offices received practically the same kind of compliments. General Manager Seymour was called up the following day at Lake Geneva, fifty-three miles from Milwaukee, and congratulated on the excellent appearance of the telephone marchers.

The whole pageant was like a gigantic series of moving pictures—and they were intensely human. It was very dramatic in that the same firm purpose seemed to unify everyone—but there was no tragedy apparent in it. Like everything human there must have been some pathos connected with it, but if there was any, it was in the background, and it was a spirit of optimism that shone above all else. The element of comedy also made many appearances to amuse the good-natured crowd; for example, when the operators

star cast, the girls were surely the super-satellites. The *Milwaukee Free Press* of July 16th, spoke of them as follows:

"The hello girls of the Wisconsin Telephone Company probably attracted as much attention as any contingent in the long line. They were praised on every hand. The proud boast that Milwaukee has the best looking girls in the country was borne out yesterday."

The *Milwaukee Sentinel* of the same date spoke of the telephone part in the parade in this manner:

"General Manager H. O. Seymour of the Wisconsin Telephone Company led one of the most striking units of this division. The 500 red, white and blue bonnets decorated with the national colors were a joy to the eye. The men looked cool in their white duck suits, relieved only by the red, white and blue sashes thrown over their shoulders. An artistic and pretty effect was secured by a group of the marchers with uplifted umbrellas which formed a

at parade headquarters, and a special switchboard at the Grand exchange office. The operators for these stations were telephone company employes. Mr. Knowles volunteered the following about the quality of telephone service rendered:

"It was splendid. In fact, it was indispensable. By it, I kept in constant touch with all divisions of the parade, and they kept in touch with one another. I think it due to this that everything ran so smoothly. It was invaluable because of its assistance in helping to care for those prostrated by heat. For as soon as an S. O. S. call came in, we would send out an ambulance immediately. The whole telephone system worked with remarkable smoothness and rapidity."

General Manager Seymour received from J. C. Wall, general secretary of the Preparedness Parade Committee, the letter on page 18 which speaks for itself on this subject.





MILWAUKEE TELEPHONE GIRLS IN PREPAREDNESS PARADE.

Milwaukee, Wis., July 17, 1916.  
Mr. H. O. Seymour, General Manager,  
Wisconsin Telephone Company, Milwaukee.

Dear Mr. Seymour: I am requested by the executive committee of the preparedness parade to extend to you as general manager of the Wisconsin Telephone Company their sincere thanks and appreciation for the splendid service rendered by your company during the parade on Saturday, July 15th.

Indeed your service was most wonderfully han-

dled, and the great success of the parade was largely due to the work of your most courteous and efficient force who were in charge at headquarters and on the street lines. Kindly extend to these employees our kindest regards and gratitude for the service they rendered.

We would have you say a word to your Mr. Thomas S. Bell for many courtesies received at his hands.

For your own splendid coöperation, dear Mr. Seymour, we are greatly indebted. Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. C. WALL,  
General Secretary.

P. S.—In addition let us say that we have received numerous compliments at headquarters today for the fine appearance your force made in the parade—the girls especially, BLESS THEIR HEARTS.

Mr. Seymour in turn wrote a circular letter to the employees on July 17th which aptly expresses the sentiment of every pa-



TRAFFIC SECTION READY TO START IN MILWAUKEE PREPAREDNESS PARADE.  
Mr. McKivitt, District Traffic Chief, in foreground.



rade official of the Telephone Company towards the splendid support given their efforts by the rank and file of the telephone division.

WISCONSIN TELEPHONE COMPANY.  
Office of the General Manager.

Milwaukee, July 17, 1916,

To the Employés of the Wisconsin Telephone Company:

I wish to congratulate the men and women of the company for the wonderful showing made by them in the preparedness parade. The spirit of patriotism which prompted the very large number to march through the heat and the rain is certainly appreciated by our country, and the very fine appearance made by the telephone division gives great credit to the telephone company.

From those who viewed the parade have come to us many messages of congratulations for the

Telephone Division and it is to his excellent management and untiring efforts that the lion's share of credit for the success of the affair is due.

William C. Elmore of the engineering department was the deputy marshal as signed to the telephone division by the committee in charge of the parade. Mr. Elmore has had considerable experience in military matters, and was of great assistance in the preparatory drills.

Elizabeth Rosche's work in drilling the various formations of the girls was very efficient, as their precisely formed lines and accurate marching demonstrated.

P. M. Kynaston, W. O. Schilling and

drilling by the accuracy of their lines and step.

After the traffic girls followed a group of 144 girls, who carried red, white and blue parasols. They were arranged to represent the American flag, and were constantly cheered along the route. This group included the clerks and stenographers of the various departments of the company.

The rear guard was composed of 400 enthusiastic men employés of the company. They were dressed entirely in white with patriotic hats, and each carried a flag. Their lusty and vigorous appearance seemed greatly in keeping with the spirit of "preparedness" which was present everywhere.



MEN'S SECTION, TELEPHONE DIVISION, MILWAUKEE PREPAREDNESS PARADE.

excellent appearance made by the telephone people and you may—each and every one—feel very proud of your part in the parade.

(Signed) H. O. Seymour,  
General Manager.

While the telephone division was assembled and waiting for its turn to join in the march, it started to rain quite briskly. Commander Thomas Bell had prepared for this by having a neighboring school house left open. The girls broke ranks and adjourned there until the shower was over and thus preserved the smart appearances of their gaily-covered parasols and pretty bonnets. When the telephone message came that it was nearly time for the telephone section to join the procession, the girls re-assembled with remarkable rapidity and discipline. They wore roses which were donated by P. Dorrrell, whose place of business is located near the Grand office on Fifth street.

Thomas S. Bell was commander of the

J. S. Love acted as captains of the Traffic, Flag and Men's Battalions, respectively. They were ably assisted by the twenty-six lieutenants who had charge of the various platoons.

A band marched at the head of the telephone division. Then came the color bearers, followed by the staff of the telephone company, composed of Messrs. Kilham, McEniry, Chandler, Koepke, Hobbins, Krizek and E. B. Usher. General Manager Seymour walked slightly in advance of these men.

The operators of the traffic department came next, led by A. F. McKivitt and the Misses Rosche and Neverman. There were over 500 girls in this division and they appeared very neat in their white dresses and patriotic bonnets. Each carried a flag. The girls showed the result of careful

Altogether the parade was about the best introduction the Wisconsin Telephone Company has ever had to Milwaukee. This is particularly true of our girls. Many bystanders remarked that they had never before seen so many wholesome and refined girls gathered in one group. Over 150,000 people are estimated to have witnessed the parade from places along the line of march.

### Moral Twisted

The telephone in a physician's office rang madly, says *Current Opinion*, and the following conversation took place:

"We want the doctor, quick!"

"Who's sick at your house?"

"Everybody except me. I'd been naughty, so they wouldn't give me any of the nice mushrooms papa picked in the woods."



# Safety First and Accident Prevention

Member National Safety Council



HE WHO READS AND DOES NOT HEED  
MAY LIVE TO RUE THAT CARELESS DEED

ASK THE FELLOW WHO HAS  
BEEN HURT. HE KNOWS!

NEVER PUT OFF UNTIL TOMORROW  
WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR SAFETY TODAY

## Accident Prevention

By LIEUT. M. J. SHIELDS  
Medical Reserve Corps, U. S. A.

The subject of accidents is now being attacked, you might say, from all sides. It is being taken up all over this country. You cannot mention a corporation of any size or progressiveness that has not inaugurated a system of "Safety First," or Accident Prevention. The reason for this agitation is that we have awakened to the fact, so to speak, during the last three or four years, that we have been wasting a great many things. Of course, being a dollar-chasing nation, the first things we talked of conserving were land, trees, water, minerals. Last, but not least, we have taken up the conservation of the most valuable asset of any country, human life.

If we only look at it merely from the dollar side and consider only one of the items, the actual loss in wages, figuring the wage at a very conservative amount, there was last year a loss of more than \$250,000,000. Of course, as you know, that is not all there is to it on the dollar side.

There are a whole lot of things in connection with accidents that money cannot pay for. You cannot be reimbursed for the pain; you could not get money enough to buy even the tip of your index finger, and if you lose an eye,

no amount of money will buy another eye for you, except a glass eye, and you could not see out of that. It is not for the money side of it that this agitation is being carried on all over the country. I do not know of anything that would make a foreman's hair gray sooner or worry him more than to have a number of his men hurt.

per cent. of the accidents have something connected with them—that if that something was not there, the accident would not have happened. It is not, of course, always the man's fault who gets hurt. It may be because of some lack of or defect in equipment, some carelessness or thoughtlessness on the part of somebody else, that the accident happened.

It is conceded that about thirty per cent. of the accidents are unavoidable. If we could cut the total of avoidable accidents from seventy per cent. even to fifty per cent., think what a number of lives and limbs we would save in a year.

But it is the things that happen every day that cause the greatest number of accidents. Thirteen out of fourteen men killed are killed in single accidents, and thirty-three out of thirty-four injuries to men occur in single accidents. Along the same line, it is not the dangerous things that cause the greatest number of accidents. It is the things that do not seem to be dangerous. Climbing poles is not the greatest cause of accidents to linemen. Climbing ordinary sixteen-foot ladders and step-ladders causes a great many accidents. The pole climbing seems dangerous to start with, and in consequence a man takes more care of himself, because he realizes this

danger. When he climbs the homely step-ladder he does not seem to realize the danger and is injured very much more frequently. A great many accidents are caused by tools falling, for instance.

Accidents upset and disarrange things, and it is very important that we should try and cut down the number of accidents to the lowest possible point.

It has been figured out that seventy-five





Another great cause of accidents is the slipping of tools while being used, screw drivers, etc. The screw driver may have a corner broken off, or the corners may be rounded, or it may be too large for the screw. I know of a case where a man, in throwing a shovel on the tank of a locomotive, was careless and threw it too far, going clean over the tank and striking a man on the head who was walking on the other side, killing him instantly. The man, of course, did not intend to kill the other man, but it was simply a matter of carelessness in using too much force. A great many times accidents are caused in this way; pieces of iron fly off a hammer or the burred end of a cold chisel and may strike a man in the eye.

You might install safety device after safety device; you might double them; you might cover lighting switchboards with screens; you might put guards over the dangerous machinery; you might place warning sign after warning sign on the walls, doors, etc.; as they say out West, you might cover the whole "smear" with safety devices and warnings and double the size of your books of rules on safety, but if you do not go any further than that on safety, you will not go very far in the prevention of accidents. You have to get the coöperation of the man who has to do with the safety devices if you are going to get anywhere in the matter of prevention. The rules and safety devices count only thirty per cent. in accident prevention; the human element, or the man, counts seventy per cent.

We know that it is not the green switchman that pulls over the "knuckle." It is not the green brakeman who couples with his feet. It is not the green lineman who handles the wire as if it were a clothes line. It is always the man who is perfectly familiar with his job—too familiar, in fact. If he was not so well acquainted with the work, he would not take the chances he does. Such a man not only endangers his own life and limb, but he teaches other men the dangerous ways of doing things. The way we begin doing things, unfortunately, is usually the way we continue doing them. In preventing accidents, therefore, you are doing good for yourself and also for the other fellow. A master mechanic of wide experience said that he learned from observation that the apprentice boy did not get hurt during the first six months in the shop, but during the second or third six months, because the boy was afraid to do things at first. He saw this fellow taking chances and that fellow taking chances, until finally he got into the habit of taking chances himself.

If you see something that could cause an accident, you have not done your duty to your fellow man if you do not try to prevent it. If you see a board with two or three nails exposed and pass it by without turning it down or pulling the nails out, and somebody else comes along and steps on it and gets blood poison, you cannot

get away from the fact that you were partly to blame for that accident. Many people have lost their lives by slipping on banana peelings which were thrown on the sidewalk. Many cases of broken hips, etc., have resulted from such falls.

Now, no matter how few the accidents are, it is the earnest desire of all that they should be cut down still further. As I intimated before, the man who is on the job is the most valuable element in accident prevention. He is the man who will suffer the pain; he is the man who will lose the finger or the limb, and he is the man who should be most interested in preventing accidents.

### The Hard Guy

Once upon a time there was a Hard Guy, who had it doped that he was the Bell Cow in the Bunch that he herded with. He was one of those would-be Wise Ones, who figured that what he spouted was the Real Thing and anyone who did not fall for his line of talk was a Dub. This Four-flusher won his daily feed by skinnin' up poles and fightin' Hot Ones, and his Long Suit was tellin' the Bunch how he could handle sixty-six hundred without any of the Safety Stuff that the High Brows wanted him to use. He had it figured that the Safety Talk was all to the good of the Company but any time that it was good for him he would let you know. Any of the Bunch that he worked with who slipped on the Rubber Mitts or carried wire guards with them were nothing more than Village Linemen, and he gave them the Merry Ha-Ha, and just about had the Bunch hacked.

The only one who really had this fellow's number was the Dame he had tagged as his, when she was in a trance, and she was so busy with the five Kids and the Mortgage that she did not have time to tell anybody what a Lemon she had picked. This Little Lady, however, had heard some of the Safety Talk that was being handed out and made the Old Man take her to one of the Meetings. After that there was nothin' to it but for Mr. Wise Man to slip on his rubber gloves before he left home. This was easy, because before he got to Jerry's place on the corner he had them safely tucked inside of his Flannel Shirt.

He showed up a little late one morning after spending most of the night with Jimmie, the youngest, who had the colic, to find out that Dame Nature had tried to pull all the lines in town on the bum. He was told to get a hustle, work fast, but play safe at both ends and the middle. He kicked into his spurs and grabbed a Fifty-Footer that was carrying a sixty-six hundred tie line on the top arm, understrung with twenty-three hundred. As he worked his way up through these Hot Ones his spur kicked out and he grabbed everything in sight, making the top of the pole look like the 4th of July. His partner working just below him reached out and handed

him one, managing to break his hold, and held on to him until some of the Gang came up and lifted him down.

When they finally turned on the sunlight and he was able to make out through the Purple Haze what was happening, he wanted to know who hit him. Then he went off his Noodle, and for many, many moons his Old Lady wondered how she'd look in black. He came out of his trance finally, and was able to hobble back on the job—but listen, if you ever saw a Careful Guy in your life, little Willie is one. No more Wind Jammin', and he is so strong for Safety that the Gang call him S. F. for short.

Moral: Don't knock the other fellow's game until you know how good it is.—*Chicago Bureau of Safety Bulletin.*

### Don't Be Like Mr. Camm!

Know what's going on. An Englishman by the name of Charles Camm has been discovered, who, although his country has been engaged in a terrific conflict for more than two years, didn't know it.

SAFETY FIRST is the order of the day, every day. Do you know it? Do you practice it?

### Transcontinental Demonstration at Grand Rapids

At the banquet of the International Circulating Managers' Association, at the Eighteenth Annual Convention held in the Banquet Room at the Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, June 21st, the members were treated to a surprise by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company in the form of a transcontinental demonstration.

G. W. Peck of New York office of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company had charge of the demonstration and before the demonstration gave a short lecture on the building of the line. There were 196 receivers placed at the banquet table for all of the guests, and one telephone set at the speakers' table. The first item on the program was the roll call of the following cities: New York, Pittsburg, Chicago, Omaha, Denver, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Sacramento, and Los Angeles. Then followed short talks given by several prominent newspaper men located at New York and Sacramento. M. E. Stone, manager of the Associated Press; Roy Howard, manager of the United Press; and J. W. Brown, editor of *Editor and Publisher*, all of New York, made short talks to the banqueters, as did J. B. McClatchy, editor of the *Sacramento Bee* of Sacramento. De Wolfe Hopper, the actor, recited "Casey at the Bat" to the delight of those gathered around the banquet table. Next to the last item on the program was the playing of the "Little Grey Home in the West" on a phonograph at San Francisco. The end came with the good night roll call with the cities above mentioned.

## Telephone Men Discuss Advertising

About twenty telephone men from all parts of the United States and Canada were among the delegates to the Convention of Advertising Clubs of the World held in Philadelphia in June. These men were either advertising managers or agents or officials interested in the publicity end of the telephone business.

During the first day of the sessions they were enabled to hear N. C. Kingsbury, vice president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, on the subject, "The National Advertiser." Mr. Kingsbury reviewed all the functions and purposes of national advertising, and among other things he said:

"Almost every advertisement which we put out calls forth expressions of criticism. A man out in Missouri or Oregon or some other place reads that advertisement. He remembers some experience wherein he considers our performance has not lived up to the promise in our ad, and he writes in and calls attention to what he considers is our insincerity. He usually winds up with some such remark as this: 'If you would pay less attention and less money for advertising and more attention to your service, it would be better.'"

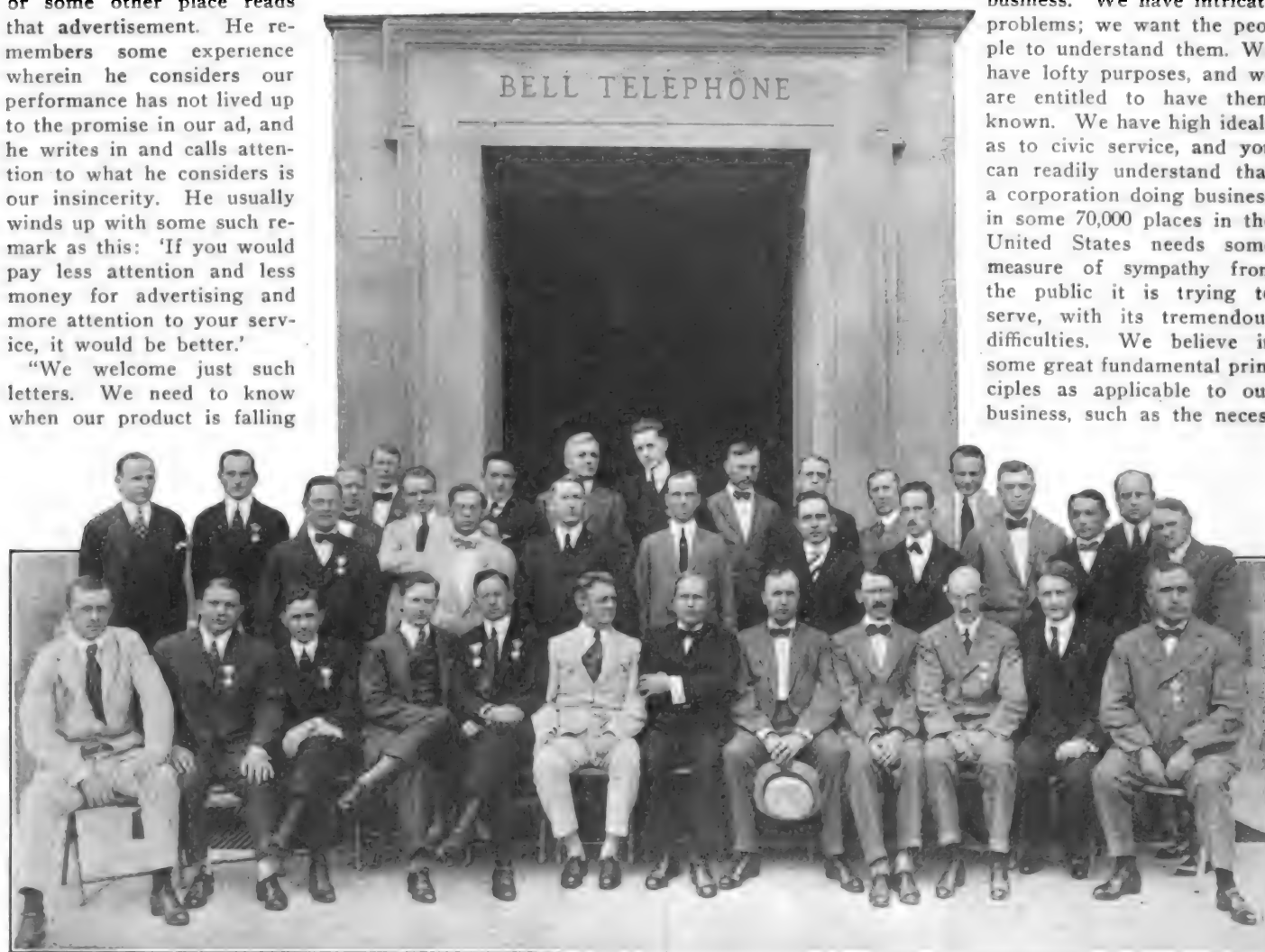
"We welcome just such letters. We need to know when our product is falling

below the standard we claim for it. Unfortunately we are not manufacturing a product which can be inspected when it is finished and before it is placed upon the shelves for sale. We cannot see it, we cannot measure it with calipers to know that it comes up to the specifications, and therefore, we welcome an honest statement from the man who knows that something is going wrong. The more we claim in our advertising, the more must we deliver in our service. I thoroughly believe in hitching our advertising wagon to a star and then striving to live up to the standard we set. Such advertising brings forth the highest type of endeavor. It is like the heart of Bruce thrown ahead of the advancing Scots. He who is content with a mediocre product may advertise it as such without fear of criticism, but he who strives for the best and adver-

tises his endeavors in that direction must necessarily invite criticism if his product is not always perfect.

"It has been said a good many times, but I must repeat here, that the corporation which I have the honor to represent and which spends large sums of money each year in national advertising does not do so with the direct object of inducing people to subscribe for telephone service. Our president, Mr. Vail, has said to me over and over again, 'You must keep out of your advertising anything in the nature of an invitation to purchase telephone service; get away from the commercial idea.' Well, that is a pretty hard thing to do, but we have conscientiously tried to do it.

"We advertise in a national way because we serve a nation-wide public and we want that public to know all about our business. We have intricate problems; we want the people to understand them. We have lofty purposes, and we are entitled to have them known. We have high ideals as to civic service, and you can readily understand that a corporation doing business in some 70,000 places in the United States needs some measure of sympathy from the public it is trying to serve, with its tremendous difficulties. We believe in some great fundamental principles as applicable to our business, such as the neces-



BELL TELEPHONE PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING MEN AT PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION.

Sitting, left to right—Humphrey Sullivan, Gen. Pub. Agt., Southwestern Group; A. Messe, Div. Adv. Agt., N. Y. Tel. Co.; E. D. Anderson, Div. Adv. Mgr., N. Y. Tel. Co.; R. S. Scarborough, Adv. Mgr., N. Y. Tel. Co.; Allard Smith, Gen. Mgr., The Cleveland Tel. Co.; J. D. Ellsworth, Adv. Mgr., Am. Tel. & Tel. Co.; L. H. Kinnard, Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr., The Bell Tel. Co. of Pennsylvania; B. C. Carroll, Gen. Agt., The Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; Evelyn Harris, Pub. Agt., Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co.; P. L. Thomson, Adv. Mgr., Western Elec. Co.; J. D. Lawton, Cont. Agt., Providence Tel. Co.; J. H. Moeller, Adv. Agt., Michigan State Tel. Co.

Standing, left to right—A. W. Lincoln, Sup. of Directories, The Bell Tel. Co. of Pennsylvania; H. G. Stokes, Copy Mgr., N. Y. Tel. Co.; H. W. Casler, Div. Adv. Mgr., N. Y. Tel. Co.; L. D. Newman, Editor, *The Telephone Review*; W. H. Howard, Div. Pub. Mgr., The Bell Tel. Co. of Pennsylvania; T. T. Cook, Editor, *The Transmitter*; J. F. Greenawalt, Pub. Mgr., The Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co.; A. L. Lavine, Am. Tel. & Tel. Co.; T. J. Feeney, Pub. Mgr., New England Tel. & Tel. Co.; J. E. Boisseau, Pub. Mgr., The Chesapeake & Potomac Tel. Co.; Z. Z. Hugus, Div. Pub. Mgr., The Central District Tel. Co.; F. C. Builta, Pub. Mgr., Northwestern Group; J. H. Atchinson, Spec. Agt., Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co.; F. B. Ellis, Directory Mgr., N. Y. Tel. Co.; G. E. Gable, Copy Mgr., The Bell Tel. Co. of Pennsylvania; J. C. Lynch, Genl. Supt. of Traffic, The Bell Tel. Co. of Pennsylvania; F. J. Wisse, Editor, *The Telephone News*; W. W. Hiller, Genl. Com. Agt., Wisconsin Tel. Co.; H. P. Miller, Div. Sub-License Mgr., N. Y. Tel. Co.; C. E. Rolfe, Dir. Adv. Mgr., The Bell Tel. Co. of Pennsylvania; P. C. Staples, Pub. Mgr., The Bell Tel. Co. of Pennsylvania; C. E. Fortier, Adv. Mgr., The Bell Tel. Co. of Canada.

sity for one policy as regards the general use and protection of every telephone in the United States. We believe in one system, because we cannot conceive of a nation-wide service being performed by numbers of unrelated companies. We believe in universal service, because the ultimate benefits incident to telephone service obviously cannot be given or received in a restricted territory."

On Wednesday, June 28th, morning and afternoon, the advertising managers and agents of the Bell companies held a session of their own in the Board of Directors' Room at the Bell Parkway Building. Matters of interest and policy in the advertising and publicity work in all the various groups were discussed. J. D. Ellsworth of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company presided.

### Bell Newslets from Camp and Border

Captain Hamlet C. Ridgeway of Company E, First Illinois Infantry, has been in temporary command of his battalion at Fort Sam Houston, comprising 500 men. Captain Ridgeway, who in civil life is a member of the Chicago Telephone Company's commercial department, has been working twenty hours a day.

Sergeant De Munat and Sergeant Cook, both of the construction department, have been appointed rifle instructors for Company E, First Illinois Infantry.

Private Ira Blood of Company E, First Illinois Infantry, has been detailed as orderly for General Fred Funston.

H. A. Horney, of the Cleveland Telephone Company, thinks Camp Willis at Columbus, Ohio, is a splendid place for a fat man to reduce weight. Horney lost eighteen pounds in twenty-three days at the camp and found himself under weight when examined. He was therefore honorably discharged.

The First Squadron, Ohio Cavalry, includes in its ranks several Bell Telephone men. Private R. H. Royce, of Troop B, writes that the squadron has been drilling conscientiously and is in good physical shape. At present writing the Ohio troops are still at Camp Willis.

Sergeant V. R. Code of Company E, First Infantry, Illinois National Guard, now at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, has been very ill with pneumonia. Sergeant Code is a member of the wire chief's force, Main office, Chicago.

First Sergeant Arthur Langland of Company E, First Illinois Infantry, was bitten by a scorpion. No harm resulted, as the medical men have learned exactly how



CAPTAIN H. C. RIDGEWAY,  
Company E, First Illinois.

to deal with insect bites. Sergeant Langland is a member of the construction department, Chicago.

The telephone men who are members of the First Illinois Infantry expect to organize a telephone club. There are about thirty telephone boys in the regiment, scattered through the various companies. The generosity and patriotism of the company in paying the men their salaries and keeping their positions open come in for much grateful comment by the men. It gives them great satisfaction to know that they and their families are cared for properly—it makes them better soldiers.

B. F. Raum of Company M, Fifth Ohio Infantry, was much interested in the efforts of some of the amateurs in the signal corps to climb poles. He relates that one man came down faster than he went up and went under the doctor's care. Private Raum, at the time his letter was written, was contemplating taking service in the signal corps.

J. C. Armstrong, Company B, Fourth Ohio Regiment, at Camp Willis, contributes the following:

"The Fourth Ohio Infantry has been at Camp Willis since July 2, 1916, waiting for orders to move to the South. We are putting in the time at drill and other duties. Company B lost twenty-nine men and one officer through the medical inspection. We were sorry to lose Second Lieutenant Marshall, who was fourteen years in the company. Sergeant Major Wooley was appointed second lieutenant to succeed Lieutenant Marshall.

"We had a call to arms on the twenty-fourth instant, and the regiment broke all records by getting into line, fully armed, in seven minutes. We are going to Camp

Perry for rifle practice. The boys are elated over it, as it will break the monotony of camp life. It is rumored that the troops are not getting enough to eat, but Company B has no complaint to make. We have two pay stations in camp, serving over 8,000 men, and every one is pleased with the service. We have Spanish-American war veterans in camp and they say that we have better service than they had in 1898, with four stations and not so many men.

"We have several boys from the Central Union Telephone Company, and we are proud of what the receivers are doing for the country in her time of need. Of 14,000 who enlisted, we have something over 8,000 left, so you see we need nearly 6,000 men to fill the gap made by the medical examiners.

"Hoping that my next letter will be from Mexico, and that this may be of interest to the Central Union Telephone Company, and boost recruiting for the good cause, I am,

Sincerely yours,

"J. C. ARMSTRONG,

"Company B, Fourth Regiment."

The following are additions to the list of telephone men of Wisconsin who are in the service:

James W. Jamison and William Marshall are privates in Company C, First Regiment, of Whitewater.

Charles Lichtfuss is a private of the First Regiment, Company G, of Madison.

### Your Back to the Wind

A famous Englishman once had a talk with the leader of a band of gypsies. "How do you decide which way to go next?" he asked the nomad. "I turn my back to the wind."

Just a picturesque way of expressing a wish to follow the paths of least resistance. True, but there is this thought in it for the worker: The wind bloweth where it listeth. And though there is a possibility that it may blow you where you wish to go, the chances are heavy against it. If you're aiming at a goal and trying your best to reach it, you will find it better policy to face steadfastly toward it and pay no attention to whimsies of the wind.—*The Transmitter*.

### A Stationary Lift

When the wife of a wealthy mining man of Colorado arrived at the Manx hotel, San Francisco, Calif., she made straight for the telephone booth after having registered at the hotel desk. On arrival in the booth she deposited her handbag, sat down and commenced a period of "Watchful Waiting." Having been seated in the booth for ten minutes or so she became impatient and called to W. James, the clerk:

"Say, young man, when is this elevator going to move? I am in a hurry to get to my room!"



## The Value of Routine Plant Inspections by the District Wire Chief

By B. F. PARISH  
District Wire Chief, Appleton, Wis.

At the present time the inspections are made by the district wire chief semi-annually and the various plant items are checked up at all exchanges in the district. These inspections are of great value and the reasons will be enumerated in what follows:

The yards at exchanges where we own our own buildings are inspected as to neatness, the walks are looked over to see if they need any repairing, and any rearranging which can be done, is taken up at the time of the inspection, the idea being that the district wire chief can make notes of the best points at all of the exchanges and sift them down, and in this way the very best ideas are worked out at each exchange. As for example: A manager at one exchange does not get to other offices very often and they may have some good ideas at other exchanges which he knows nothing about. This can be overcome, however, as mentioned above.

The condition of the buildings is gone into, including the plumbing, heating plant, etc., and any repairs needed can be taken care of. The manner in which gasoline is stored is looked into very carefully for, regardless of all the instructions which have been issued on this point, some of the employes get careless at times. A careful inspection is made of all fire apparatus, as it is a most important item to see that the fire apparatus is inspected and maintained properly and that there is a sufficient amount of apparatus on hand and properly marked, as per bulletin on this subject.

The electric wiring is gone over very carefully and also the matter of economical lighting system. As far as that is concerned, all of the various expenses at any exchange are gone into at the time of the inspection and checked up very carefully to see that no unnecessary money is being spent.

The cable entrance, main and intermediate frames and cable runs are all inspected very carefully to see that the cables are sewed properly and are not hanging loose. Also that all connections are soldered on the frames and that there are no reverses in the color code, and that the arresters, etc., are all in good condition.

The coil and relay racks are inspected for defective relays, coils and condensers. The fuse panel is checked up carefully to see that all the fuses are of the right capacity, as regards blue print circuits. The wire chief's desk and test panel are inspected and the wire chief checked up to see that he has a thorough knowledge of all the necessary testing, especially on the toll lines.

Power apparatus and the storage batteries are inspected very thoroughly, as

this is a most important item, and the battery reports are checked to see that they are made up properly and correctly.

Another important item is the stock room, which is checked up for neatness. It is also necessary to see that the exchanges have no over-stock of material or instruments, and if they have, this is sent back while the district wire chief is on the job.

All of the public pay stations equipped with booths around town are inspected to see if they are neat and clean, properly signed and in good condition generally. All the toll stations are called to find out how the transmission is and all the toll lines are listened on for noise or trouble of any kind. The local and toll boards are inspected very thoroughly, especially to catch any old troubles which might exist. Sometimes the managers and the wire chiefs are liable to pass up troubles and allow them to remain in the board and make no record of them. All this can be detected on the district wire chief's inspection. This also applies to the desks in the operating room.

One of the most important items is the inspection of substation wiring to see that the work is being done according to specifications, especially as far as new installers are concerned. The matter of checking the wire chief's records takes considerable time, and I believe is the most important part of the work. All of the card and cable records are checked carefully, as well as blue prints.

The wire chief is checked up to see that he has a complete set of bulletins and that all the bulletins which have been issued are properly filed away where they belong, and it is also determined whether or not various wire chiefs have all interpreted the new bulletins the same way—this, for the reason that sometimes one wire chief has one idea on some point, while another wire chief has an entirely different one.

The matter of plant inspections is checked up as well as all the new routine tests, which have come out within the past six months. Trouble records are carefully gone into to see that there is not an excess amount of trouble at any exchange.

Meetings are held and plant accounting and specifications are gone into. Also the matter of handling material, etc. The instrument report is checked up once a year. This is a very important point which was formerly taken care of by the auditor. Toll and insulation tests are made and the district office in that way has first hand information along those lines.

At exchanges where automobiles are kept, their maintenance is looked into. The amount of contract work on hand is taken up to see that there is no delay in the installation of instruments and the moving of them, or any cable work which may need to be done is taken care of.

I believe in the above article I have shown in a concise manner that inspections by some one outside of the local exchange are of great value.

## The Development of Good Service by the Traffic Department

By J. T. QUINLAN  
District Manager at Appleton, Wis.

Service is the foundation of the telephone exchange which would build up a profitable business, with prompt collections and good standing before the public.

A step necessary at the outset, in order to secure success, is for the manager to make sure that there is no interference, due to lack of systematic inspection and maintenance of switchboard and central office equipment. Unless, from the plant viewpoint, the plant maintenance standard is adhered to, no operating force, however competent, will be able to furnish first-class service. This is true also of plant maintenance as regards the outside plant. Many times the operating department is criticised for poor service when, as a matter of fact, some other department has not been doing its part of the work as well as it should, which means that they are not giving proper coöperation. Without coöperation an efficient service cannot be maintained.

The exchange manager, having satisfied himself that his apparatus and equipment are in proper condition, realizes that the responsibility for furnishing service will then depend largely upon the traffic department.

In order that this responsibility may be properly met, the manager must use great care in selecting his operating force as its personnel is the dominating factor.

The selection of chief operators, supervisors and monitors, who are to direct the operating force, is of the utmost importance. These having been selected and fixed duties and responsibilities assigned to each, and proper authority given, there should be no trouble in maintaining good service. It should be borne in mind, however, that the manager should follow the lines of authority and responsibility which he has conferred upon the chief operators and give them proper support and supervision in the carrying on of the work.

A systematic routine for efficiency meetings for operators is essential to good service. These meetings should be held at regular intervals and on such occasions the manager, chief operator and supervisors should endeavor to impress upon the operators the meaning of, and necessity for, fixed routine operating rules and that their strict observance is imperative.

Every individual in the telephone organization should study and apply the rules laid down for their guidance and should instill into their work a feeling of personal pride and interest. In an exchange in which this atmosphere prevails, employes will find the day's work to be more of a pleasure than a burden and can rest assured that they are establishing themselves and their business in the good favor of the public.

## Brief News Notes from the Field

Items of Interest to Michigan Telephone Employees Gathered from All Parts of the Territory

Julius H. Moeller, Correspondent, Detroit.

### Mobilization in Michigan

Mobilization of the National Guard and the anticipated call to arms because of the Mexican crisis found many Bell employes in Michigan ready to enlist in the service of their country.

At present there are fourteen employes of the Michigan State in camp with the Michigan troops. This, by no means, represents the quota of men the company would have supplied had actual hostilities broken out between the United States and Mexico. Many employes belong to military organizations not connected with the National Guard, which offered their services to the war department, should the situation be such as to require them.

The spirit of the organization was typified by the offer of the Detroit telephone operators to aid in Red Cross work as soon as the war clouds began to gather. Captain W. A. Fenner was notified at the Detroit Armory that 3,000 Detroit telephone girls were ready to make bandages and first-aid articles for the boys of the National Guard just as soon as the same might be needed. The girls were eager and willing to do all within their power to aid the soldier boys. Captain Fenner informed the girls that there was no immediate need for bandages, as the first-aid supplies would be more than sufficient while the troops were in camp, but assured them that their generous offer would be gladly accepted if later developments warranted.

Following are telephone employes in Michigan who have joined the colors:

Arthur H. Koltz, cableman, Port Huron; Company C, Thirty-third Michigan.

Charles McCallum, plant man, Cheboygan, Petoskey District; first lieutenant, Company K, Thirty-third Michigan.

Russell Gould, switchboardman, Lansing; Battery A, Sixth Division, Telephone Signal Corps. M. D. Collard, installer, Lansing; Battery A, Sixth Division, Signal Corps.

Russel Casey, plant department, Detroit; Company C, Thirty-first Michigan.

Joseph Wielaba, plant department, Detroit; Company B, Thirty-first Michigan.

Joseph Ovorus, plant department, Detroit; Company B, Thirty-first Michigan.

Lloyd E. Wilson, plant department, Detroit.

Charles C. Kramer, plant department, Detroit.

Howard Siewert, plant department, Detroit; Company C, Thirty-first Michigan.

George F. Gee, plant department, Detroit; Company A, Signal Corps, Thirty-first.

Lewis D. Parent, plant department, Detroit.

Arthur Sewell, plant department, Houghton; Naval Reserve.

Elmer Laidlaw, plant department, Pontiac; Company E, Thirty-third Michigan.

Clyde V. Taylor, plant department, Pontiac; Company E, Thirty-third Michigan.

Clifton Crowley, construction department; hospital corps, Tenth Regiment, Pennsylvania National Guard.

### Rearrangement of Offices

Expansion of the telephone business in Michigan has resulted in such an extensive growth of various departments that a rearrangement of offices in Detroit has been made necessary.

The plant department has moved out of its former quarters on the third floor of the main office building, Clifford and Washington boulevard, and is now housed in a separate building at the southeast corner of John R street and Broadway. The traffic department has moved into the rooms left

vacant by the migration of Mr. Sharpe and his force and the engineers have annexed to their official quarters that part of the second floor of the main building deserted by Mr. Bradshaw and company. George J. Brett, division auditor of receipts, has moved from the Cadillac exchange building to the third floor of the Kresge Building.

The telephone company has taken a lease for several years on the second floor of the John R and Broadway building and thus provided fine, commodious quarters for Mr. Sharpe and his force of assistants and clerks. The entire floor has been remodeled and redecorated, fitted up with the latest and best office appliances and presents by far the most attractive appearance of any of the departmental offices of the company.

The new plant department quarters cover 7,900 square feet of floor space, which compares with 5,817 square feet in the old office. Its walls are tinted in the standard telephone office finish, with side walls of light buff and ceilings of white, and the office is bright and attractive in appearance. Floors are tiled throughout and all woodwork is of dark-stained oak. Lighting facilities are excellent, numerous windows and several skylights admitting the sunshine into all parts of the office. Ornamental chandeliers of the latest improved type afford a semi-direct system for lighting at night and add materially to the attractiveness of the place. The whole aspect of the new office gives one the impression immediately that here are bright, cheerful, sanitary quarters. It is not to be wondered at that the plant department is quite happy in its new official abode.

The additional space that has been provided has enabled the construction of several private offices that were badly needed. In the northeast corner is the private office of C. G. Sharpe, plant super-



NEW OFFICES OF PLANT DEPARTMENT, DETROIT.

intendent. Extending along the north side of the room is the clerical force of the plant superintendent, operating under the immediate direction of H. J. Brett, chief clerk. In the northwest corner is the private office of Ray V. Hurlbut and Frank Sullivan, plant supervisors. The greater part of the main office space is taken up by the plant accounting force under A. E. Madsen, plant accountant, who occupies a private office in the southeastern part of the building. Beyond Mr. Madsen's office is a spacious fireproof file room and several feet to the north is a large fireproof locker room.

During the sultry, summer weather, numerous electric fans, well located throughout the offices, keep the quarters as comfortable as the ingenuity of man has been able to devise in his efforts to discount the heated season.

An intercommunicating No. 1 residence telephone system adds to the convenience of the officials.

The migration of the plant department from the main office building began about a year ago, when the Detroit plant department and the construction department moved from the Main office building to their new home at Kirby and Dequindre streets. The need of larger quarters is seen in the growth of the clerical force during the last year. The Detroit plant force now includes forty people, an increase of five in the last year. The clerical force in the construction department numbers ten people as compared with four a year ago. Mr. Madsen has seventy people in his department now. Last year at this time fifty people were able to take care of the work. His force has been even larger at various times in recent months, as many as ten additional clerks being employed to prepare special reports.

Some minor changes have been made in the new offices of the traffic department. Partitions have been erected along the south side of the building, providing private offices for Mr. Walley, traffic supervisor; Mr. Clarke, traffic engineer; Miss Hayes, social secretary; and Mr. Murray, toll supervisor.

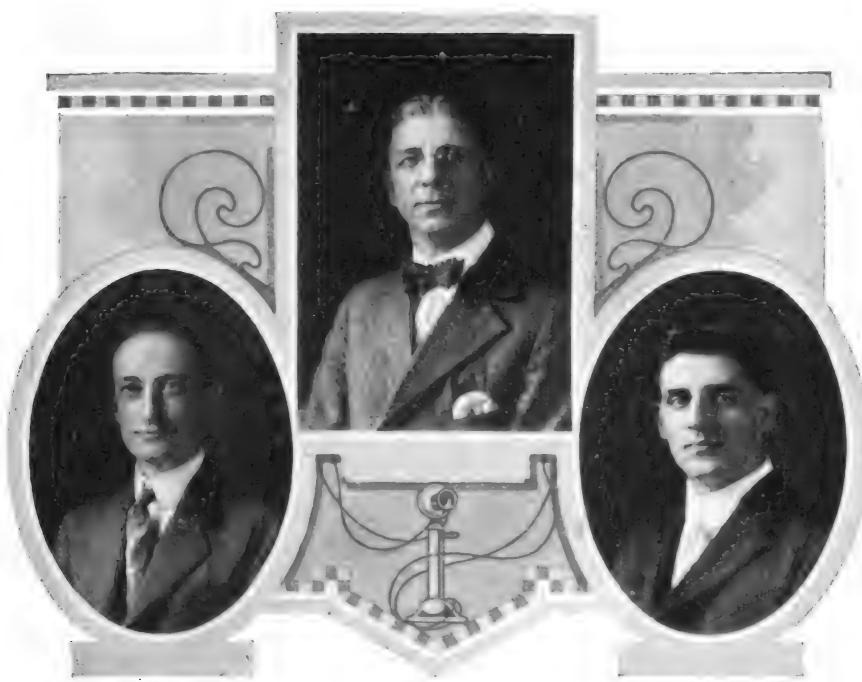
The space formerly occupied by the traffic department has been converted into a drafting room and connected with the offices of the engineering department by a doorway. This adds 1,254 square feet of floor space to the offices of the engineering department, giving it a total of more than 4,000 square feet of floor space. The number of employees in the engineering department has increased eighty per cent. during the last year, there being fifty-one people on the department pay roll as compared with twenty-eight a year ago. The increase will probably reach one hundred per cent. during the next half-year. The traffic department office force shows a gain of forty-two per cent. during the last twelve months, increasing from forty-three people to sixty-one in that period.

#### Promotion of Miss Middleton

Mildred Middleton, formerly chief operator of the East office, Detroit, has been promoted to the position of principal of the Operators' Training School, succeeding Mrs. Lena Smith, who is now in charge of pay station work. The change became effective early in July.

Miss Middleton began her telephone career in Windsor. When she came to Detroit she took a position as an assistant teacher in the Operators' Training School. Later she was given charge of the East office, where she remained for the next seven years.

—M



H. B. JUDY.

E. C. LASKEY.

WILLIAM B. KEMP.

The girls in the East office held Miss Middleton in high regard and regretted exceedingly to see her transferred to another office, although rejoicing with her in her success. Thursday evening, June 20th, they gave a double surprise party. It was in honor of Miss Middleton's promotion and also to celebrate the advancement of Loretta Gannon to the position formerly held by Miss Middleton. Miss Gannon was promoted from relief chief operator.

The affair took place in the retiring room at the East office, which was nicely decorated with daisies and yellow, green and white crepe paper. Games of pleasing variety were features of the entertainment. Ice cream and cake were served. Miss Gannon was presented with a beautiful tourist's traveling set by the evening girls and Miss Middleton was given a gold watch, a token of esteem from all the operators.

#### Detroit Traffic Department Affairs

At a meeting of the Main and Cherry girls held in the Telephone Society room of the main building, July 7th, the operators of these exchanges



MILDRED MIDDLETON.

met for the first time with E. C. Laskey in his new capacity of Detroit traffic chief and with H. B. Judy, formerly of Chicago, who has taken the position of traffic chief in the Main and Cherry offices left vacant by the promotion of Mr. Laskey. Short addresses were made by Mr. Laskey, Mr. Judy, Mr. Bradshaw, traffic superintendent; and Mr. Johnson, traffic chief of the North, Walnut, Market and Hemlock offices. A pleasing program of musical numbers was rendered at the conclusion of the business meeting, by Margaret Youngblood, a clever professional singer and entertainer from the Temple Theater. Dancing concluded the entertainment. Light refreshments were served.

R. E. Reiff, formerly district traffic chief of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company in the Riverside and San Diego districts, California, has recently joined the traffic department of the Michigan State.

He has taken a position as traffic supervisor under L. J. Walley and will devote his attention to traffic matters out in the state.

W. B. Kemp, of Chicago, has been transferred to Detroit as assistant to Fred Clarke, traffic engineer. Mr. Kemp was previously in the office of the traffic engineer at Chicago. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, class of 1911. This is the second addition to Mr. Clarke's staff within the last few months, H. V. Weed, formerly traffic supervisor, having joined him at an earlier date.

B. F. Gilkeson, traffic chief at the Grand and Cadillac offices, resigned August 1st to enter another line of business. He is succeeded by A. L. Findeisen, formerly of the traffic department of the Chicago Telephone Company. Mr. Findeisen is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, class of 1913.

#### Sad Death of Operator

Myrtle Berkemo, an operator at Hickory office, Detroit, met death by drowning in the Detroit River at the foot of Lycaste avenue, Tuesday afternoon, July 11th. She happened to step into an excavation that had been recently dredged, and disappeared. Harbor Master Kling recovered the body about an hour later and applied the pulmotor, but to no avail.

Miss Berkemo entered the employ of the company a year ago last September. She was very popular with the girls at the Hickory office and all are much grieved.

E. C. Laskey, Detroit traffic chief, and Irene Hayes, social secretary, happened to be at the Hickory office when the sad news of the accident was received. They hastened to the scene of the tragedy to render whatever assistance might be possible.

#### Organization Changes

S. E. Francis, manager at Mt. Pleasant, has also taken over the management of the company's office at Rosebush, succeeding Mrs. F. Harrington. The change became effective June 30th.

Effective June 13th, Harry G. Stowell, of the Pontiac plant department, became manager at the Royal Oak exchange. He succeeds E. S. Lane, who has been transferred to the staff of Mr. Harrington in the division equipment department.

#### Detroit Commercial Department

Thomas Finneran, of the collection department, "put one over" on his friends early in June, in a most clever manner. Friends of Anna Page, an operator at the North office, and of Mr. Fin-



neran received invitations to the wedding of the young couple which was to take place June 28th in a Detroit church. Friends were planning to give them a great send-off, but to their dismay and surprise, it was announced on the day set for the wedding that the ceremony would not take place that day. Pressed to explain, Miss Page advised her confidential friends that the marriage had been happily consummated at an earlier date, namely, June 3d. One young lady in the North office, who had not been present when the announcement was made that the wedding would not take place on the twenty-eighth, went to the church and waited more than half an hour for the bride and groom to appear. She finally left completely bewildered and heavy at heart at thoughts of the unfortunate experience she feared her friend had suffered. The ceremony took place at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Paul Phillips, Grove avenue, Highland Park.

Eddie Steiner, chief clerk to the manager of the Detroit commercial department, passes a milestone in his life every thirteenth day of July. This year some of his friends took it upon themselves to help him observe the occasion in fitting manner. They had motor cars waiting when the offices closed for the day, picked up their victim and gave him a ride around the city that proved a regular thriller. The Steiner home at 581½ Concord avenue marked the end of the tour. Here Eddie and his friends found a bounteous repast awaiting them and all had appetites that enabled them to do justice to the tempting viands prepared for the occasion by the good Frau Steiner. The merry-making continued far into the night and will never be forgotten by those in attendance. Eddie is carrying as a souvenir of the occasion a very pretty silver cigarette case, the gift of his friends who had carried him off so unceremoniously earlier in the day.

Four additional positions have been added to the commercial order table, making a total of twelve.

Miss Reva, commercial department stenographer, has been transferred to the traffic department.

A. T. Babbitt has taken over the duties of J. M. Jamieson, chief commercial agent, who recently resigned to go into the real estate business.

H. F. Tallon, commercial agent, while on his vacation, met with quite a serious accident. While touring from Detroit to St. Louis, he struck a bad spot in the road, near Fort Wayne, Ind. His machine went into the ditch. Mr. Tallon was badly bruised, but is now recovering nicely.

### Miss Hayes Meets the Situation

Irene Hayes, social secretary at Detroit, has gone into the transportation business. She made her debut in this line of activity when the Detroit operators went to Cedar Point, Monday, July 17th, and her success at the venture indicates that within a short time a magnate of a new order will have arisen in Detroit.

This is the way it all came about: Miss Hayes was chaperoning a party of operators who had

gone in bathing about a mile and a half from the boat landing. They were late in starting back for the dock and were compelled to run most of the way. Accompanying Miss Hayes was Mrs. Shaughnessy, a former operator, who has been ill with rheumatism for several months. Unable to keep up with the rest of the girls because of Mrs. Shaughnessy's lameness, it became necessary for Miss Hayes to devise some means to get her charge over the course in faster time, if they were not to be left behind. Miss Hayes looked around in vain for relief. Oh, that an automobile would chance this way, she cried.



J. H. RUSSELL,  
Toll Wire Chief, Detroit.

Close by was a power house with several wheelbarrows and no one watching. Miss Hayes had an inspiration. She made a dash toward the power house, seized one of the wheelbarrows and returning, literally dumped her charge into the improvised chariot. With surprising speed, the horseless vehicle covered the ground, propelled by one hundred and fifty pounds, more or less, of human flesh and blood. Perspiration rolled down the noble brow of the intrepid Miss Hayes. Her face was as red as the petals of a blushing rose. Mrs. Shaughnessy cried aloud in protest. But, undaunted, Miss Hayes pursued her course for a mile and a half and never relaxed even a minute till she had arrived safely at the dock.

The boat had already started on its return trip and was many feet from the shore. The sharp clang of the gong in the engine room resounded over the waters. The boat seemed to stop. Then, with a rushing and splashing of the waters astern, the stately ship was seen to be making back to the dock, the crowd shouting and waving approval at the valiant race that had been run by Miss Hayes. The captain had witnessed her heroic efforts. His heart melted when he beheld her dismay at the prospect of being left behind in spite of her great work. He turned the boat back to the dock, taking Miss Hayes and party aboard, amid the plaudits of the multitude.

Miss Hayes took her own heroic part as a matter of course and appears primed for any emergency. Anyone wishing to be assured of reliable transportation facilities when ordinary means of travel fail, is referred to Miss Hayes.



TELEPHONE OPERATORS IN PREPAREDNESS PARADE AT BAY CITY.

### Girl's Social Club

The first outing of the Girls' Social Club, of Detroit, was held at Bois Blanc June 24th and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

A business meeting was held on the steamer *Ste. Claire*, in one of the parlors reserved for the occasion. Many things of interest were discussed and arrangements for tennis were made. Grace Smith will have charge of the season's work. Pearl Shelly was appointed chairman of the next outing.

After supper at the island, the girls turned to their favorite pastimes, dancing or riding on the merry-go-round. Grace Redmond and Effie Brown spent most of their time on the latter and a number of the girls were beginning to think they had bought the concession or had taken a long-term lease on the affair.

On Friday, July 8th, a number of the girls enjoyed an outdoor supper at Belle Isle and agreed that nothing can equal something of this kind during the summer days. It is therefore planned to have many gatherings of this variety. Della Moore claimed honors for swinging the highest. Grace Smith practiced considerably swinging the tennis racket and hopes to become an expert before fall. The affair was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

### Bay City's Preparedness Parade

The accompanying photograph shows twenty of the Bay City operators captained by Assistant Chief Operator Mary Sursley, just before starting in the Preparedness Parade at Bay City June 21st.

Many favorable comments were heard about the appearance of the operators in the long line of march. The G. A. R. committee in charge of the affair wrote as follows to the company, thanking it for participating so splendidly in the parade:

Gentlemen: We take this occasion to thank you for the magnificent turnout of Michigan State Telephone Company employers and employees in the Preparedness Parade, June 21st. The G. A. R. and allied organizations will always have a warm spot in their hearts for the manner in which you cooperated with them in this patriotic event. Yours very truly,

G. A. R. COMMITTEE.  
L. A. L. Gilbert, Chairman,  
James C. McCabe, Secretary.

### Grand Rapids District

V. R. Cummings, former manager at Ludington, has, since the merger of the United Home and Michigan State properties, been engaged on special work at the Scottville exchange, in connection with the merger.

J. Wrather, manager at Muskegon prior to the merger with the United Home company, has been transferred to the plant department at Pontiac. Mr. Wrather was manager at Muskegon for eleven years.

Lucile Potvin, formerly chief operator at Ludington, has been transferred to the Grand Haven exchange, on account of merger of the Michigan State and United Home Telephone companies.

Louise VanAnroy, chief operator at Holland, returned from a furlough, as she found it exceedingly difficult to keep away from the summer resort business that the Holland office handles.

Donald Allison resigned as night operator at Grant to accept a position in Big Rapids. He is succeeded by Forrest Hoddell.

Iiah Bisard, operator at Grant, spent her vacation at Fremont, Muskegon and Grand Rapids.

Bessie Reed, formerly chief operator at Hart, has been transferred to the Grand Rapids toll department.

The following Grand Rapids operators have been promoted to supervisors' positions: Bernice Hunt, Anna Milan, Emma Ozinga.

On Saturday, June 17th, the employés of the Grand Rapids exchange held their first annual picnic at North Park. There were ninety-nine in attendance from the commercial, plant and traffic departments and district accountant's office. It was by far the largest outing ever arranged by the local office, and no doubt would have been much larger but for the brand of weather handed out by the weather man previous to the event. However, there were plenty of "eats" and "pep" exhibited. Several very exciting races were run, including one fat ladies' race, which was won by one of the girls, whose friend states she weighs almost ninety-five pounds. It was never ascertained how she got into this race, but she certainly won it without any trouble. This picnic was handled by a committee composed of representatives from all annual event.

#### Farewell Party for Operator

Myrtle Peterson, toll operator at Escanaba, who left early in July for Bend, Oregon, to make her future home, was the guest of honor at a delightful surprise party given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ellingson on Wells avenue. Miss Peterson has been in the employ of the Michigan State Telephone Company for ten years at the Escanaba exchange and the party was arranged by the exchange employés. The guest of honor was called to the Ellingson home and there found the guests assembled. The evening was delightfully spent with a program including games and music and later delicious refreshments were served.

Miss Peterson was presented with a traveling bag by members of the party as a memento of the happy event. Miss Peterson carries with her the best wishes of her associate employés to her new home in the West.

#### Kalamazoo District

Ethel Young, daughter of Mrs. P. A. Young, of Eau Claire, and Percy Ahrens-Sauppe, of Chicago, were quietly married at the Christian parsonage in Benton Harbor. Their marriage comes as a surprise to their many friends. Lillie Fetke, of Toledo, accompanied them to Benton Harbor and acted as one of the witnesses. The young couple will reside in Kalamazoo, where Mr. Ahrens is employed in the construction depart-



TELEPHONE PICNIC AT GRAND RAPIDS.

ment under H. Schamerhorn. The bride was formerly an operator in Eau Claire.

Work was started recently in St. Joseph placing two one-hundred-pair submarine cables across the St. Joseph River at State street bridge. This work is being done by Foreman Kanode. Also, work was started on additional cable facilities and removal of pole line across Morton Park, Benton



H. J. JOHNSTON,  
Manager at Port Huron.

Harbor, at a cost of \$10,000. This work is also handled by Foreman Kanode.

Prospects are very bright for one of the best resort seasons that Benton Harbor and St. Joseph have enjoyed in several years, weather conditions being perfect. Also, indications are that the fruit crop will be exceptionally good and prices will be above the average.

At St. Joseph the answering jacks in the switchboard are all in use and arrangements are being made to install at least sixty answering jacks in the near future. This exchange, as well as Benton Harbor, has enjoyed a steady growth.

The Chamber of Commerce at Benton Harbor and St. Joseph were recently invited by the Ber-

rien County Country Club to enjoy a half-day's frolic at its club house. During the afternoon a ball game took place between the two cities and Manager Stevens played third base for the Benton Harbor.

A contract was secured recently from the Hotel Whitcomb, St. Joseph, for forty-six additional terminals, to be in service by July 1st, which makes 146 terminals in use by this hotel at the present time.

#### Port Huron District

Mrs. Lawson, chief operator at Utica, visited the Port Huron exchange July 11th.

Arthur Koltz, cableman at the Port Huron exchange, resigned June 17th to enlist in the national guard.

Margaret Stack, clerk in the commercial office at Port Huron, has resumed her duties after spending her vacation with friends and relatives at Saginaw. While in Saginaw Miss Stack acted as bridesmaid at the wedding of her cousin, Evelyn Rosseau.

Jessie Medley and Gertie Longman, toll operators at Detroit, visited the Port Huron exchange June 29th. Miss Medley was formerly a toll operator at the Port Huron exchange.

Madeline Connonoly, operator at Port Huron, has returned to work after spending her vacation with friends in Detroit.

Ella Schroeder, assistant cashier at Port Huron, returned to her work after spending her vacation with relatives in Detroit and Richmond.

Zella MacLeod, assistant chief operator at Port Huron, accompanied by her mother, left Saturday, June 17th, on the steamer *Harmonic* for Sault Ste. Marie to visit friends and relatives.

Hazel Sumner, day supervisor at Port Huron,

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(Patent Pending)

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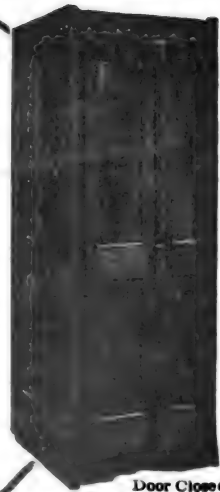
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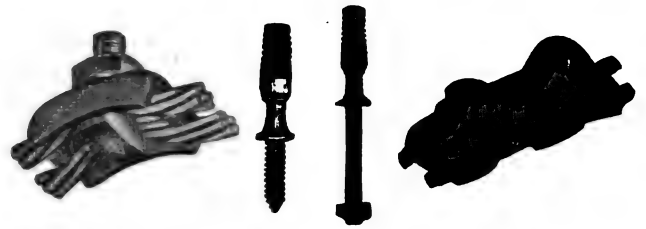
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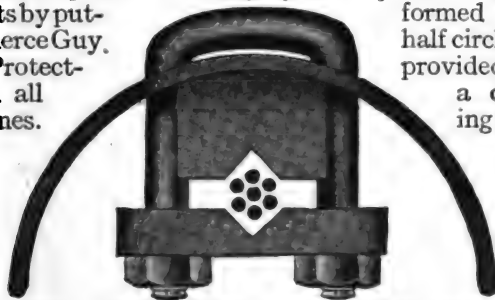
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Protect the public from injury and lawsuits by putting Bierce Guy Wire Protectors on all such lines. Made of heavy gauge steel, 7 ft. long, Sectional view of protector showing clamping device for attaching to guy wire or anchor rod at any point desired.



Furnished in light gray paint finish, or galvanized, as desired.

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ports indicate that he will make a speedy recovery.

Edith Durocher, operator at Monroe, enjoyed two weeks' vacation as a reward for perfect attendance during the past year.

The Monroe exchange changed to common battery two years ago last March. At that time it was thought that switchboard facilities were adequate for five years. However, they are now exhausted and arrangements are being made to add several new positions to the board. Several cable leads are also being enlarged.

It was a great celebration and a fine tribute to their fellow worker that the operators of the Michigan State Telephone Company participated in at Whitmore Lake, July 19th and 20th. Amanda Zemke, toll operator, has just completed her fifth consecutive year of service with the telephone company and in celebration of the event the operators, supervisors and chief operator quietly planned a surprise picnic. All arrangements were made without the knowledge of the guest of honor and not until she was invited to attend at the last moment was Miss Zemke aware of the distinction that was to be shown her. As all of the traffic force could not leave duty at once, it necessitated a two days' celebration, one-half of the operators going Wednesday and the other half Thursday. The trip to the lake was made in the middle of the afternoon by train and the return trip in automobiles. The program on both days consisted of a banquet at the Burke Hotel, dancing, music, boat ride on the lake and automobile ride. Miss Zemke was presented with a handsome ivory clock, a token of respect from her fellow workers.—*Ann Arbor Times News*.

#### Grand Rapids District

Mable Maxim, night operator at Big Rapids, spent a week's vacation at Grand Rapids.

Hazel Ford, relief operator at Big Rapids, spent one week at Battle Creek.

Ruth Shannessy, toll operator at Big Rapids, enjoyed a two weeks' outing at Chippewa Lake.

Mary Biddlecome of Big Rapids spent two weeks at Morley and Greenville.

Viola Van Alstine, chief operator at Big Rapids, enjoyed a week's vacation at Grand Rapids.

#### Lansing District

Susan M. Petrie, former chief operator at Eaton Rapids, has accepted the position of commercial clerk at the same exchange. Dora Adams, toll operator, at Eaton Rapids, has been made chief operator. Miss Petrie has just spent her vacation at the northern resorts.

Reva Plumb succeeds Alta Hair as operator at Portland. Miss Hair resigned July 31st to be married.

Marguerite Stark, chief operator at Grand Ledge, has resumed her duties after a two weeks' vacation spent at Winona Beach.

Mary Shafley has been relief operator at Grand Ledge during the absence of regular employees.

Marie Cetus, chief clerk in the District office, spent a two weeks' vacation at Harbor Springs, Petoskey and Mackinac Island.

Mrs. Etta Robbins, manager at Dimondale exchange, and son took a two weeks' motor trip early in August. They followed the shore line of Lake Michigan, across the Straits, thence to Sault Ste. Marie and back through the eastern part of Michigan. They spent a few hours in each of the principal cities en route.

Susie Cameron, toll operators at Charlotte, has resigned to accept a position with the Michigan State Telephone Company at Battle Creek. Ethel Wirtbaugh has accepted Miss Cameron's position as toll operator.

Violet Ross, operator at Charlotte, has returned after spending a month's vacation at Green Bay, Wis.

James Dell, wire chief at Charlotte, spent an enjoyable vacation of two weeks at various cities in Ohio.

John Smyser, commercial agent at Lansing, spent an enjoyable ten days' vacation at Bay View, Mich.

—M

Bernice Gilleo, chief operator at Lansing, enjoyed a week's vacation at Grand Rapids with her parents.

G. E. Gregory, manager of Mason exchange, and Mrs. Gregory, and Wire Chief Earl Reynolds and Mrs. Reynolds of Lansing enjoyed a motor trip through the northern part of Michigan.

Edward Collier has accepted a position as city



PICNIC AT MENOMINEE

foreman at Lansing. Mr. Collier was transferred from the construction department in Detroit.

Edna Damon has accepted a position as clerk at Lansing, Hazel Sprout having resigned July 31st.

Alma Weimeister, operator at Howell, spent an enjoyable vacation visiting friends in Detroit.

Edith Dickerson, cashier at Howell, enjoyed a week's vacation visiting Northville friends. Bertha Whitaker acted as temporary cashier during Miss Dickerson's absence.

Elsie Jessel, chief operator at Wacousta, was married to Homer Barnes, a member of the Michigan National Guard, of Lansing, on June 21st.

B. R. Marsh, district manager, enjoyed a ten days' motor trip through Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Ohio. Mr. Marsh was accompanied by his wife and daughter, Winifred May.

L. J. Currie and wife motored to Chicago recently.

Jollette Applegate, stenographer at Lansing, enjoyed a week's vacation at Detroit and Put-in-Bay.

Adelaide Morse, cashier at Lansing, spent a two weeks' vacation at Alma and Shelby, Mich.

Wave Brown, clerk at Lansing, spent a two weeks' vacation at her home in Hillsdale, Mich.

L. J. Currie, district foreman at Lansing, sustained slight injuries by a fall from a bicycle on July 21st. It is rumored that the District Foreman was exceeding the speed limit.

H. F. Allmann, manager at Lansing, has returned from a ten days' vacation which was spent at Bay City. Mr. Allman was accompanied by his family.

#### Petoskey District.

The Manistee exchange had four operators who lost no time during the past year. Each was therefore entitled to two weeks' vacation.

Eugene Coates, drop-wagon foreman at Detroit, spent a week's vacation with Charles Cowan, toll repairman at Manistee.

W. C. Benschoten, formerly Manager at Flint, is spending some little time with friends in Ludington and Manistee, where he was formerly located. Mr. Benschoten's health is greatly improved; he now looks well and strong and says that he has fully recovered from his recent illness.

Amory T. Irwin of Chicago, editor of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS, was a visitor at Petoskey during the week of August 14th. Mr. Irwin with his family spent his vacation at Menominee Beach.

Recently Lineman Clyde Cox, on repairing a farmer line, had occasion to call in with his test set. Being unable to find a ground of any kind he climbed a poplar tree, fastened one side of his test set to the circuit, drove his spur into the tree, fastened the other side of the test set to the spur and rang in very easily. This is the first time on record that a lineman ever found any use for this kind of a tree.

Clyde Cox, lineman at Traverse City, has resigned and Ellsworth Townsend has been transferred from Petoskey to Traverse City to fill vacancy.

#### Port Huron District

On July 20th a severe electrical storm visited Port Huron, putting three cables out of order, causing in the neighborhood of 400 cases of local trouble. The Port Huron plant force by hard and continuous work succeeded in having all telephones restored to service Sunday night, July 23rd.

On Thursday, July 28th, twenty-five of the Port Huron operators enjoyed a picnic at Lakeside Park. The party was chaperoned by Mrs. Clifford Downey, formerly chief operator's clerk. According to all reports, a good time was enjoyed by every one.

Port Huron exchange enjoyed an increase of twenty-five stations during the month of July.

Margaret Stack, commercial clerk at Port Huron, has returned after spending her vacation with friends in Detroit.

Ella Schroeder, assistant cashier in Port Huron, has returned after spending her vacation with friends in Detroit.

The Port Huron exchange in July, 1926, completed 9,561 out calls as compared with 9,252 for July, 1915.

Local manager H. J. Johnson and wife of the Port Huron exchange entertained the latter's mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Wisner, of Holly, during the month of August. Mr. Wisner is manager at Holly.

Mae Trese, cashier at Port Huron, left August 5th for two weeks' vacation which she spent in Saginaw and Detroit. Margaret Pettingill, C. C. Failing's chief clerk, accompanied Miss Trese to Saginaw.

Ben Shields is a new plant repairman at the Mt. Clemens exchange.

Clyde Addis, who formerly worked at Mt. Clemens, has accepted a position as repairman.

Albert Cholcroft, cableman at Mt. Clemens exchange, has resigned to accept another position.

#### Sault Ste. Marie District

William D. Maloney has been appointed manager at St. Ignace in place of P. Mullvehill, who resigned to accept a position with the Michigan Northern Power Company at Sault Ste. Marie.

Ella Stroebe assisted at the Sault Ste. Marie exchange during the absence of Alma North, clerk, on her vacation.

U. E. Parent, who left the service the first of June to take a position with the Electric Light Company at Newberry, is back with the company and stationed at that point.

Amory T. Irwin, editor of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS, and family, visited the Mackinac Island exchange en route to the Snow Islands on a fishing trip.

Lewis Ackley with his construction crew is making the installation of the cable under the new fourth lock. Mr. Ackley's force is also doing work in connection with making cable extensions to the outside plant at the east and west ends of the city.

Mrs. Mary Gutcher, manager at Newberry, has returned from her vacation. Mary Kitchen, formerly an operator at Trout Lake, and Florence Friese of Newberry, were in charge of the exchange at Newberry during Mrs. Gutcher's absence.

Alma North, clerk at Sault Ste. Marie, spent her vacation at a point on the Muskoka Lakes, Canada, where she joined her mother from Columbus, Ohio.

Angela M. Conley of President B. E. Sunny's office and Anna Masterson from the treasurer's office, Chicago, visited the Mackinac Island exchange.

Stella King of Detroit is acting as temporary operator during the season at Mackinac Island.

Irva M. Purdy took over the management of the Hopkins exchange August 1st, succeeding Dorothy M. Cooke.

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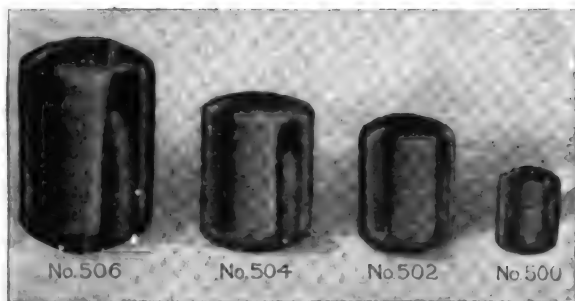
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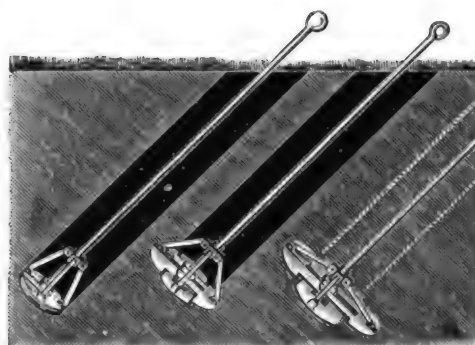


Fig. 1—Represents Anchor Placed at bottom of hole.  
Fig. 2—Partially Expanded. Fig. 3—Fully Expanded.

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And post o'er land and ocean without rest;  
They also serve who only stand  
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"They also serve who only stand

and wait." The Bell Telephone is your servant even while it "only stands and waits." The whole system is always prepared and ready for your instant command.

Every wire and switchboard and telephone instrument is kept alive and responsive by an army of telephone workers.

Each one has his special part to do and, because he does it faithfully, countless messages speed throughout the length and breadth of the land, at every minute of the day and night.



AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY  
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

*One Policy*

*One System*

*Universal Service*

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# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

October 1916



# Bell Telephones

AND CONNECTIONS

## In the Territory of the Central Group of Companies

SEPTEMBER 1, 1916

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Connected</u>	<u>Total</u>
ILLINOIS	620,533	274,857	895,390
OHIO	226,948	216,673	443,621
INDIANA	107,104	216,864	323,968
MICHIGAN	247,349	82,352	329,701
WISCONSIN	<u>165,293</u>	<u>143,867</u>	<u>309,160</u>
	1,367,227	934,613	2,301,840

# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

ONE POLICY

UNIVERSAL SERVICE

ONE SYSTEM

Volume 6

CHICAGO, ILL., OCTOBER, 1916

Number 3

## Character in Public Utilities

Address by Nathaniel T. Guernsey, General Counsel of American Telephone and Telegraph Company  
Before National Commercial Gas Association, New York

There is no one thing in the affairs of any public utility that is of more far-reaching importance than its relations with the public which it serves. This proposition, like almost every other proposition which is true, is not new. It is as old as business transactions and relations. There is nothing complex in it. It is as simple as self-interest. The notable thing about it is that until a comparatively recent date it has not been given the general recognition in connection with the affairs of public utilities which its importance demands, and which it has received in other avocations.

The men who directed the interests of the public utilities of this country fifty years ago and who had charge of these interests from that time until ten or twenty years ago were not deficient in either business sagacity or experience, and yet, if we are frank with ourselves, we must concede that many of the difficulties which public utilities are now encountering and which have been serious factors in their recent experience have grown out of the failure to give due weight to this almost obvious matter of public relations.

What has been recognized as fundamental in other avocations as long as business has existed has received strangely small attention from public utilities. Ever since there have been merchants or manufacturers, they have recognized the importance of the good-will of their customers; ever since there have been bankers, bankers have taken into account and have been influenced by

the interests of those whom they serve; even in the days when the ethics of the profession would not permit a lawyer to render a bill and he was compelled to accept for his services whatever his client might choose to bestow upon him as an honorarium, the lawyer could not afford to disregard the good-will of his clients; there never has been a time when physicians have failed to recognize the importance of their personal relations with their patients; even the clergyman cannot be indifferent to the feelings of his parish.

The extent to which public utilities in the

past have failed to recognize the entirely obvious fact that the same rule which applies to every other business applies to them, and to govern themselves by this rule is astonishing. It is only recently that the influence exerted upon the business of a public utility by its relations with the public which it serves has been recognized as a factor of almost controlling importance in the success or failure of its enterprise.

The public is not, and in the very nature of things cannot be, indifferent as to the utilities. Services which were only once

conveniences have become, especially in the larger communities, absolute necessities. In the more populous cities every citizen is dependent upon each of the utilities. He cannot live without light, or heat, or water, or transportation, or means of communication; and what is true of these centers is true, as a general proposition, although to a less degree, as to the smaller communities, and even as to the scattered farming population. The laws which have been enacted in almost all of the states, creating commissions vested with greater or less jurisdiction in the regulation of public utilities, are a direct manifestation of the public estimate of the importance of the matters pertaining to these services.

The commercial departments of our public utilities are the branches of the organizations which are brought into most frequent direct personal contact with the public. The considerations which have been briefly outlined point



NATHANIEL T. GUERNSEY

to the policy which must underlie and characterize their work, if it is to be done successfully, and this means if it is to be done right. If it is done right, it will be successful, and if it is not done right, it cannot be a permanent success.

The single proposition which I wish to urge upon you to-day is that sound, enduring success in a public utility, exactly like sound, enduring success in an individual, must be founded upon good character.

Character, in the sense in which I am using the term, is defined as—

The combination of properties, qualities or peculiarities which distinguishes one person or thing, or one group of persons or things, from others; and specifically, the sum of the inherited and acquired ethical traits which give to a person his moral individuality.

In a sense, it may be said without inaccuracy that a group of persons who have associated themselves together as an artificial entity called a corporation and who are engaged in a public service have in their corporate capacity what this definition describes as character.

It goes without saying that as a corporation has not all of the attributes of a natural person, its character will be more limited than that of a natural person, but in the essential things, such as honesty, fair dealing or trickery, courtesy or discourtesy, broadmindedness and an equitable disposition or a selfish and technical point of view, a public utility corporation not only may have but inevitably will acquire a character, just as an individual does.

This character of the public utility corporation will be the ultimate expression of the effect upon the utility of all of its transactions, and will be as potent in determining the attitude of the public toward it as is the character of the merchant or manufacturer in determining his relations with his customers, or the character of the banker in fixing his relations with those whom he serves, or the character of the lawyer in fixing his relations with his clients, or the character of the physician in influencing his relations with his patients, or the character of the clergyman in determining his standing in the community. This character must inevitably be either a great asset or a corresponding liability. Sound character is absolutely essential to substantial success. It must be at the foundation of all successful business. Unsound character is a handicap so heavy that no public utility can permanently carry it.

It is said that when testifying before a committee of Congress shortly before his death, the late J. P. Morgan, when asked whether security was not the basis of all credit, replied "No, the fundamental basis of all credit is the character of the man who applies for the loan." The same idea was the foundation for the statement of a level-headed Irishman, who was at one time the president of a bank in the city in which your president resides. He said that the only poor loans he had ever made were those based on collateral; that he had never

made a loss when he had loaned on the man. Good character alone will not insure success, but good character is an essential to success.

Character, whether good or bad, and whether it be the character of a public utility or of an individual, is not an accident—it is not something that happens—it must be earned. Its nature is such that it must grow slowly and gradually. Its cost is commensurate with its value. The character of any public utility must be the outgrowth of the enormous aggregate of its individual transactions covering a period measured in years. What its character is will be determined by these transactions; each of them will affect it. If they are uniformly characterized by courtesy, and honesty, and fair-dealing, it is inevitable that these characteristics will become established and will receive public recognition. If its conduct is characterized by discourtesy, or by dishonesty, or by unfair dealing, and these persist, it is just as inevitable that these characteristics will form the basis of the public attitude toward the utility.

Every time that any representative of a public utility has any transaction with others, the result of that transaction goes into this account. No transaction is so insignificant as to have no influence upon either the debit or the credit side. No transaction is so important that it alone may control. Single transactions may have great influence, but the ultimate result will be the balance of the accounts of all the transactions. Character is of slow growth, and as it develops it will inevitably reflect the results of the innumerable daily transactions of the person in question, whether this person be a natural one or an artificial one.

An employé who is inefficient, or disloyal, or inattentive to his work will ultimately be found out, no matter how much care and shrewdness he may exercise in an effort to conceal his shortcomings; and, on the other hand, an employé who is efficient, and loyal, and diligent will just as certainly be found out, no matter how hard he may try to conceal his excellencies. In the same way a public utility will be found out; the public will without question find it out. If it is in fact courteous, if it is in fact fair, if it is in fact honest, it is absolutely impossible to prevent the public from knowing this. If its courtesy, or fairness, or honesty are mere pretense, the public will know this also. Lincoln's much quoted statement is still true, and always will be true. All of the public may be fooled some of the time, and some of the public may be fooled all of the time, but it never has been and never will be possible to fool all of the public all of the time.

The fundamental essential though is that the character of a public utility should be like that of a strong, clean, upright man, sound to the core, not on the outside merely. Short cuts and sharp practices have demonstrated that they are worse than useless.

In its transactions with its customers and with the official representatives of the public every utility should place frankness, honesty, courtesy and fair-dealing at a premium. Energy devoted to efforts to hoodwink or outwit the public is wasted. The public utility which wishes to succeed to-day, and which wishes to make that success permanent for the future, must recognize the fact that success, to be lasting and substantial, must be merited. It must assume exactly the attitude toward the public which an upright merchant assumes towards his customers. It must sell good, honest goods in the form of service or commodities. It must keep abreast of the times and improve what it sells so as to keep up with the progress of the art and science upon which the service or commodity depends. It must study the needs of the community and anticipate them instead of meeting them reluctantly and as the result of pressure. It must earn the confidence of its customers by treating them honestly and frankly. It must earn the good-will of its customers by a sincere, not simulated, care for their interests. It must realize that what it is engaged in is service and that it is a servant, and while maintaining its own dignity and self-respect, as the best of servants must do, it must recognize the fact that it must render loyal, faithful, intelligent service if it expects to enjoy the rewards of such service.

I concede that what I have said presupposes a willingness on the part of the public to be fair to the public utilities. I believe that this disposition exists as to the great majority of those who constitute the patrons of public utilities. Let us consider the situation for a moment. The great body of the public is not without common sense. It knows that it requires the service of these utilities, that they are more than conveniences, that they are necessities. It knows that it cannot obtain these services without paying for them any more than it can obtain any of the other necessities of life without paying for them. Its entire business education has supported the general proposition that to secure something good it must pay a fair price, and, speaking broadly, that what it desires to buy can only be secured by paying a profit to the seller.

Is it fair to assume that the man with this education and experience who responds to fair dealing on the part of his grocer, and his butcher, and his baker will not respond to fair dealing on the part of the person who sells him his gas, or his water, or his telephone service? Is it fair to assume that this man who appreciates courtesy from every one else with whom he has dealings and who repays it many times over in many different ways will not do the same thing in the case of the public utility?

We and our friends and our associates whom we meet day in and day out are typical of this public. We ourselves, because of our environment, are subject to



influences which tend to prejudice us in favor of public utilities, but not all of our friends are subject to those influences. No one would dare to say and no one can honestly say that these people, that the public as a whole, are not disposed to be honest and fair and equitable.

I further concede that what I have said carries with it the inference that such prejudice as may exist against public utilities may be due to the fact that they have not in their course of conduct in the past been actuated by the high ideals that should be at the basis of every great enterprise. I think that we must grant this. It will not do, if the public are not our friends, to take it for granted that the fault has not been to some extent, at least, our own. Things do not happen in this world. There is always a cause for them, and in our investigations as to the causes of such a condition, we should begin with ourselves.

This does not mean that the utilities have always been in the wrong, or that the public and the representatives of the public have always been right and ready to co-operate with the utilities in an honest effort to work out equitable results. Very often this has not been true. All too frequently, especially in cases of regulatory bodies, politics and prejudices have aggravated the results of lack of information and experience. These conditions, where they exist, make the task of the utilities more difficult. Instead of excusing methods which are not sound, they emphasize the necessity for sound methods.

I am an optimist with reference to the future of public utilities. Why? Because if there is any soundness in what I have said, it means that while we must suffer for what we omit to do, we shall be adequately rewarded for what we do do. The way to success is as clearly defined for public utilities as it is for natural persons. The first great requisite is character. While this is an essential, it will not alone insure success. There must be added to it business efficiency. With these two elements combined, success will just as inevitably result from honest effort in the case of a public utility as it will in the case of an individual. These things compel success. To concede that they do not would be to upset all our fundamental ideas as to our social and economic fabric. No utility and no natural person can have real success without earning it, and no utility and no natural person should ask for real success without being willing to pay for it by deserving it.

These are the things which make me an optimist as to the future of our public utilities. I most confidently believe that the fundamental rules which apply to all classes of business apply to them. I most confidently believe that good management, persistent effort and good character will insure their success, and I believe with equal confidence that they have learned to appreciate the importance of these factors and are concentrating in intelligent ef-

fort to adjust their policies and transactions to them—in other words, to build up character.

The ultimate success of this undertaking must rest very largely with the commercial departments of our utilities. Policies are determined by the executives, but their effectiveness is measured by the loyalty and intelligence with which they are carried out. In this matter of character building no class of individuals is charged with greater responsibility than you who are directly and indirectly brought into personal contact with the units which in the aggregate constitute the public. The representative of the utility who comes into personal contact with the public creates the public conception of the utility, and of its character. The utility must work through the individual. The honesty, the courtesy, the consideration for the consumer, the fair dealing, loyalty and industry of the employé, when persisted in, make the character of the utility, and united with his efforts, make the efficiency which puts the stamp of good management upon it.

### Bell Revenues

Revenues of the Bell system invariably increase, says the *Boston News Bureau*. The question as between a period of good general business and prostration is merely how much of a gain there is going to be in total income. This year American Telephone will achieve the greatest gain of any single year in its history.

As the signs are pointing, the company, by the end of next December, will have added nearly \$27,000,000 of the new gross and will show for the year gross receipts of better than \$265,000,000. This means a growth at the rate of 11.3 per cent. against 6 per cent. in 1915. It is necessary to go back to 1907 to find a time when the percentage of growth was as large as it is running this year.

The regularity of gain in Bell Telephone earnings makes it possible to foresee the day when the receipts of this property will cross the \$300,000,000 mark. By the middle of 1918, or two years from now, gross revenues of the Bell system should be running at the rate of \$300,000,000, and for all of 1918 the company will probably show a gross income of considerably more than \$300,000,000.

Contrast this \$300,000,000 with the \$128,000,000 gross which was the aggregate under the first year of the present management and the expansive power and vitality of the telephone industry are given an endorsement which can be approached by very few public service corporations. A 140-per cent. expansion in eleven years is a record of consistency which is decidedly unique.

There is just a chance that by the end of 1916 the Bell system will have a total of 10,000,000 stations. The aggregate will fall not more than 100,000 this side of that figure, and if present growth is even slightly accentuated the station total

should reach the 10,000,000 mark. Back in 1907 the total was around 3,500,000 stations, only one-third the prospective figures for December 31st next.

### "Phil and Bill" Promoted

Phil and Bill are going behind the counter at the Congress. For eighteen and fourteen years respectively they have been at the telephone desk at the Congress hotel and have been perhaps the widest known telephone operators in the country.

Although Phil and Bill are known from coast to coast, few persons among the army that call them Phil and Bill know their last name. It is Strauss. The Congress hotel management yesterday decided to reward them.

Phil is probably the better known. The telephone operators of all the big hotels of the country know him by name and voice, although he has seen few of them.

One night in 1904, when Myron T. Herrick was governor of Ohio, Phil saved a life by his quick work. Former Governor Herrick and former Governor Murphy of New York were at the Union League club together and their conversation resulted in Governor Herrick's decision to grant a reprieve to a man sentenced to the electric chair at midnight. Knowing Phil, he took a cab to the Congress hotel, reaching there at ten minutes to the hour.

There were a number of relays. The wires were tangled with various telephonic conversations between Chicago and central Ohio. Every bit of speed and tact and care possible had to be put into operation to secure the connection. At 11:57 some of the lines were still busy, but at 11:59 the governor reached the warden of the penitentiary at Columbus.

When he came out of the booth the governor grasped Phil by the hand and thanked him for an act which, he said, he would never forget.—*Chicago Tribune*, September 15th.

### Convention Date Changed

The date of the convention of the Telephone Pioneers of America at Atlanta, Ga., has been changed from October 19th and 20th to October 27th and 28th. The headquarters will be at the Piedmont Hotel instead of the Georgian Terrace, as heretofore announced. The change in headquarters will not, however, affect the reservations arranged for at the latter hotel.

### "W. E." in the Movies

"The Education of Mrs. Drudge," a one-reel feature devoted to the electric washing machine and iron, has been produced by the Western Electric Company. Here is the theme of the story: A woman, shackled to the old-fashioned washtub, is emancipated and made happy by the purchase of those great labor saving devices—an electric washing machine and electric iron.

### Mr. McGovern Becomes Chief Engineer

Effective October 1st, W. R. McGovern was appointed chief engineer of the Central Group of Bell Telephone companies, succeeding James G. Wray, who resigned September 30th and will hereafter be associated with the engineering firm of Hagenah and Erickson.

Mr. McGovern, who was formerly state engineer for the Chicago Telephone Company, is succeeded in that position by J. S. Ford, formerly building engineer in the state engineering department.

James I. McDonald has been promoted to the position of building engineer, succeeding Mr. Ford. Mr. McDonald was formerly general building inspector in the state engineering department of the Chicago Telephone Company.

Mr. McGovern, the new chief engineer, is a native of Milwaukee and a graduate of Marquette University. He started in the telephone business in 1899 with the Erie system, which embraced the Wisconsin, Michigan, Northwestern, Southwestern, and Cleveland companies. When the construction department of this system was abolished in 1901 he went with the equipment department of the Wisconsin Telephone Company at Milwaukee, running the gamut of traffic, maintenance and construction work, holding such positions as traffic inspector, equipment installer, line foreman, etc., finally working up to equipment engineer and chief engineer of the Wisconsin Telephone Company. His experience in these positions has included most of the work from making blue prints to the engineering and construction of the largest exchanges in Wisconsin, including a part of Milwaukee. When the Central Group was formed in 1911 Mr. McGov-



W. R. MCGOVERN.

ern was transferred to Chicago and appointed to the position of engineer of inventory and appraisals for the five companies. On August 1, 1912, he was appointed to the position of engineer for the state of Illinois, embracing all the property of the Chicago Telephone Company, city and suburban, and the Central Union Telephone Company in Illinois. In 1914, the property of the Central Union in Illinois, having been placed in a receivership, was withdrawn from the state engineering department.

Mr. McGovern is an associate member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, a member of the Chicago Association of Commerce, the Traffic Club and the Electric Club.

J. S. Ford, the newly appointed state engineer, is a pioneer in the Chicago telephone organization. In 1893 he had left Cornell University, and, as he expressed it, was "looking for a job and a chance to see the World's Fair at the same time." He accomplished both of these aims by securing an appointment as lecturer in the telephone exhibit at the Fair. He lectured so successfully that when the Fair was over his services were considered too valuable by the company to be dispensed with and he was taken into the regular Chicago telephone organization. For about a year he was chief installer, and later held positions as assistant superintendent of equipment, superintendent of exchanges. As superintendent of exchanges he was in charge of both operating and maintenance for the entire city property. This position was later changed to that of superintendent of maintenance and equipment work. At the same time the traffic work was transferred to the newly created traffic department.

Mr. Ford continued in this important

work until 1910, when he was made superintendent of plant for the Chicago Telephone Company, and a year later was made general plant inspector of the Central Group of Bell Telephone Companies under the general plant superintendent. He was appointed building engineer for the Chicago Telephone Company in 1912 when the state engineering organization was formed.

James G. Wray, retiring chief engineer, also dates his telephone experience from the year 1893. He started in one of the lowest positions in the organization. He rose through all grades, finally reaching the position of chief engineer of the Chicago Telephone Company, which position was broadened to take in the five companies of the Central Group when the group organization was perfected in 1911. Mr. Wray is a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the Western Society of Engineers, the Illinois Engineering Society, the Wisconsin Society of Chicago, and the University Club. He leaves the telephone organization with the most sincere good wishes of all of the officials of the company and the employees, with whom he has come in contact, and who have learned to esteem him during his long period of service.

Hagenah and Erickson, with whom Mr. Wray is now associated, are consulting engineers and railroad and public utility experts. They are at the present time engaged in a number of important investigations and appraisals, in which the wide knowledge and experience of Mr. Wray will be particularly valuable. Their headquarters are in the First National Bank Building, Chicago.

At a luncheon given by some of his former associates in the central engineering department Mr. Wray was presented with a handsome gold watch.



J. S. FORD.



J. G. WRAY.

# The Western Electric Company and Its Relation to the Bell System

By H. B. THAYER

President of the Western Electric Company

In order to understand the relation of the Western Electric Company to the Bell Telephone System we shall have to get in our minds a picture of the general conditions which led up to that relation.

The beginning of our business was made by the firm of Gray and Barton in 1869. The Western Electric Manufacturing Company was organized in 1872 and took over the business and plant of Gray and Barton and the machinery, etc., of the Western Union Telegraph Company's shop at Ottawa, Ill. The men who made the new company were General Anson Stager, E. M. Barton and Elisha Gray. General Stager was a capitalist. He was the adviser on business matters of the company and it was he who financed it. Mr. Barton contributed the good management and business sagacity which characterized the following thirty years of his administration. Elisha Gray was an inventor and produced devices which brought considerable profits to the company.

That was before the day of the telephone, the electric light or the electric railway. The commercial applications of electricity were the telegraph, electric call bells and annunciators, fire alarms and other similar uses, most of them in a way related to the telegraph. The company made the apparatus, batteries, insulated wires and supplies which these uses required. The principal product was telegraph apparatus, which up to the time of the company's organization had been largely made by the telegraph company and of which thereafter the company made a part. While there are no available statistics it is probable that at its very beginning the company was the largest manufacturer of electrical apparatus in the country.

## The Early Manufacturers

The aim from the beginning was to make things well. In that period telegraph apparatus was made from castings by instrument makers and in the character of the work and the finish it resembled scientific measuring and testing apparatus. Even in that period of high-class workmanship the quality of the Western Electric Manufacturing Company's product was preëminent. At the Centennial Exposition in 1876 five first-class awards were made to the company.

The relations between the company and the Western Union Telegraph Company were very close. It had taken over the work of the telegraph company's western shop. When the telegraph company went into the telephone business in opposition to the Bell interests its claims were based principally on the inventions of Elisha Gray, the superintendent of the Western

Electric Manufacturing Company. The telephone apparatus which it used was made in our factory and in its own factory in New York.

The first manufacturing by the Bell interests was in the shop of Charles Williams, Jr., in Boston. Professor Bell's experimental work was done there and the first commercial telephones were made there.

The American Bell Telephone Company acquired valuable patents on some devices used with telephones and developed the manufacture and sale of telephone apparatus by licensing manufacturers under their patents. The manufacturers so licensed were Charles Williams, Jr., Boston, who made all of the Bell telephones and also some sub-station sets and switchboards; Davis and Watts, Baltimore; Gilliland Electric Manufacturing Company, Indianapolis; Post and Company, Cincinnati; and Electric Merchandising Company, Chicago, each of whom made sub-sets and switchboards, but no telephones.

## An Outlet in the East

Now to come back to the Western Electric Manufacturing Company. In 1879 the Western Union Telegraph Company gave up the telephone business and in that same year we took over its New York shop. The effect on us of its giving up the telephone business was the loss of a customer actively exploiting the business. The effect of our taking over the New York shop was to give us an outlet in the East and the shop which had made for the telegraph company in the East the telephone apparatus and telegraph apparatus used by the same class of customers for whom we manufactured in the West. We continued at both shops to make telephone apparatus for extensions of the exchanges which the telegraph company had established and made a gradually increasing amount for the Bell companies.

In 1880 the situation then was as follows: On the operating side there was only the American Bell Telephone Company owning the patents and its licensee operating companies. The exchanges were growing and being connected by toll lines. The problems of operation, therefore, were becoming more complicated, and better talent in designing and manufacturing apparatus and uniform standards was becoming necessary.

Now as to the manufacturing side. Charles Williams, Jr., was making the telephones in a small shop in Boston. Post and Company were making the sub-station apparatus generally preferred. The Gilliland Electric Manufacturing Company was developing cheap methods of manu-

facture. E. T. Gilliland was a pioneer in the electrical business at least, in such methods as using punchings instead of castings. These were the three Bell licensed manufacturers who had up to that time contributed something to the art, and I have mentioned their special contributions. The other manufacturers, excluding the Western Electric Manufacturing Company—and there were several—developed nothing which survived.

## Our Incorporation

Then there was the Western Electric Manufacturing Company with two shops well situated geographically, skilled in the manufacture of telephonic apparatus—either one of them larger and better equipped than any of those of the other manufacturers. With the talent in telephone designing and manufacturing which we had developed in equipment for the Western Union Company and with the type of switchboard best suited to an expanding telephone business Mr. Vail, then general manager of the American Bell Telephone Company, saw that for the future of the telephone business these elements should be brought together into one strong, well equipped manufacturing organization and that then was the time to do it. As a result of his efforts the Western Electric Company was incorporated in 1881. It took over the business of the Williams and Gilliland shops and made an arrangement which brought in later Post and Company's telephone business.

A contract was made between the American Bell Telephone Company and the Western Electric Company which provided that the manufacturing company should make all of the telephones for the telephone company and that it should be licensed under the telephone company's patents to make other apparatus for the telephone company's licensees and them only. There was created an obligation upon the telephone company to buy its telephones of the Western Electric Company, but there was no obligation upon its licensees to buy anything of the Western Electric Company. The obvious intention was to create a source of supply for the licensee companies but to leave them free to use it or not. This contract was signed in February, 1882. January 1, 1882, there were in the United States 486 telephone exchanges in operation with 70,525 subscribers. These exchanges were operated by 168 separate organizations, some of them individuals and some of them companies.

The Western Electric Company, therefore, had at the outset 168 possible customers for its products in the telephone field. There were several competitors for



the business, particularly switchboards. We obtained our orders through the solicitation of traveling salesmen and by correspondence. During the period immediately after the signing of the contract I had charge of the sales, first in Chicago for two years and after that in New York. I remember very well the difficulties we experienced in getting the business. The company operating in New York City had a strong preference for a type of switchboard known as the Chinnock board made to their order by Bergmann and Company. In and around Albany there was used a type made by the Utica Fire Alarm Telegraph Company. In Philadelphia and St. Louis the Law switchboard was preferred. In Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Cleveland, one made by C. E. Jones and Brother; in Providence, one made locally. In Michigan, one made by the Detroit Electrical Works; and in the South, the Law switchboard in the larger cities, and local manufactures in the smaller places.

As I have said, we had good shops and high standards of workmanship. We had intimate relations with the engineers of the American Bell Telephone Company, therefore, we knew what the telephone companies required in their service. We had the benefit of the best talent in the country to design the apparatus. We manufactured it well and gave it most careful inspection. We observed it in operation and had the benefit of the experience of the user as well as the maker. We, therefore, gradually made a larger and larger proportion of what was used and as we made more we were able to employ more economical methods of manufacture and make lower prices, so that in the course of time we came to make a very large proportion of the telephone apparatus used by the Bell Telephone Companies. So much for the history of the manufacturing relation.

#### The Supply Contract Relation

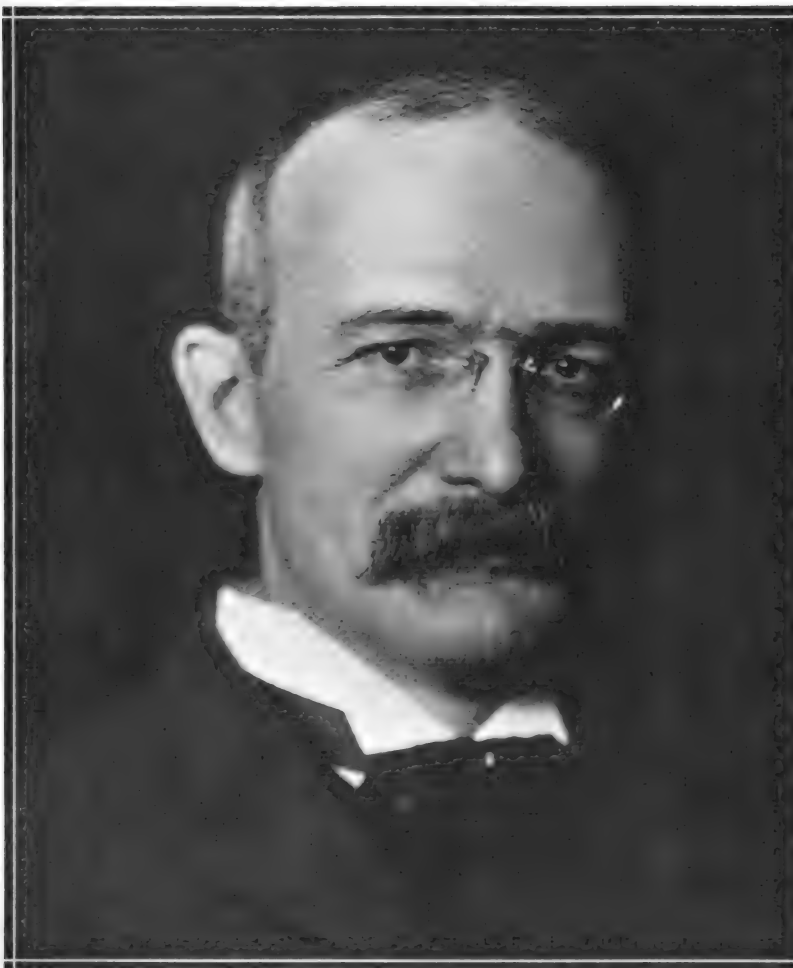
The company has always dealt in merchandise not of its own manufacture, suitable for use with its own. In the beginning this was probably more for the convenience of customers than for the direct profit involved. This business grew as the manufacturing business grew and for much the same reasons. We cooperated in the work of standardization. We established

good inspection methods. We gave good service and good prices, so that, say twenty years ago, we arrived at a situation in which we were furnishing the Bell Companies a large proportion of their requirements of line material and other material not made by us.

About fifteen years ago the relation involved in what we call the Supply Contract was inaugurated. Assuming a telephone company to be buying fifty per cent. of its requirements of us, it was clear that if we could establish an arrangement by which that business would automatically

several companies could be carried and distributed more economically and more efficiently than for one company only. Also it was recognized that buying, storing and distributing material was a subordinate function of a telephone company, but a principal function of a manufacturing company.

Taking all of the conditions into consideration there was no escape from the conclusion that there was a chance to accomplish great economies and a greater degree of efficiency by our entering into the relation of purchasing agent for the telephone companies, provided that an equitable arrangement could be worked out. We entered into this relation experimentally with one company fifteen years ago and then with others one by one until after ten or twelve years' evolution of the plan all of the Associated Companies adopted it. With each the contract was discussed and changes were made to suit their ideas until finally a standard form was arrived at, taking the benefit of all their views and of their and our experience. At first, with the best intentions, we were distrustful of each other. At first we failed to get all of the economies because each party spent too much money in watching the other and we did not get the efficiency because we had not developed far enough our understanding of the telephone company's problem. Gradually we learned how to do the job and very soon we learned that the plan was efficient in proportion to the confidence which each party had in the other and to the extent to which



H. B. THAYER

come to us on as favorable terms as the telephone company was getting through its purchasing agent, we would save the telephone company's expense in buying and our expense in selling that material. It seemed probable that the same methods applied to the other fifty per cent. would also result in some savings. If we should extend such a plan to several companies we would be able to spread a higher class buying organization over several companies than either company could afford to employ by itself. There would be a more rapid tendency to standardization and therefore to purchases in larger quantities and therefore at lower prices. Carrying the stock and distributing it naturally goes with the buying and a common stock for

they cooperated.

The relation as it now exists has been an evolution. There have been different forms of contracts but the changes have followed rather than preceded the changes in the relation. At the present time the contract is valuable only as a description of certain routines and methods of settlement. This relation depends for its continuance upon its value to the partners rather than the permanence of a written agreement subject to cancellation practically at will.

In 1907 the American Telephone and Telegraph Company adopted a definite policy of developing and operating in smaller cities and rural districts through locally owned and managed companies with which

the Bell Companies proposed to connect. In the fourteen years which had elapsed following the expiration of the fundamental patent on the telephone, many companies had entered the telephone field and several manufacturers had developed apparatus for their requirements. The Bell apparatus had been designed always with the principle of adaptability to national service in mind and with reference to national standards, while these local companies had required only adaptability to their local requirements. And because there were many of them with no bond of relationship to each other and because there were many manufacturers serving them, there had been no effort at standardization of their apparatus. Therefore, naturally and obviously there was a great difference in their types with each other and with the Bell types.

They could be connected together but not as efficiently and economically as though they had all been designed to work together. It became clearly advisable that such companies as might ultimately connect with the Bell Telephone System should have the opportunity to buy the Bell standard apparatus and as there was no way of predicting which companies would ultimately so connect it was decided that all should have the opportunity, and restrictions on this company's sales were removed in October, 1907.

This gives the history of and reason for our third relation to the System, a supplier to the connecting companies.

#### The Worth of Standardization

As to the present situation. The Bell Telephone System consists of twenty-five operating telephone companies covering directly or through connecting companies the whole country. The practice of the Bell Telephone System from Maine to California is very largely standardized. Standardization means that to give any specified kind of service on the same day, the same type of apparatus or material is always used, connected up or constructed in the same way. Standards vary from year to year with the improvement in methods, but new standards must always be workable with the old standards. Standardization effects very large economies in construction, maintenance, stock carrying and accounting and, in fact, all of the activities of a business.

Standardization in the Bell Telephone System is accomplished only after much study and labor. First the telephone companies' officials meet a new condition—possibly an apparent demand for a new kind of service. They make investigations to determine whether the demand is real or only apparent. They study the reactions on other types of service and arrive at a conclusion as to whether it is a demand which good service requires should be met. Having so concluded they consider whether it can be met with standard material and

methods and find that it requires new material. They then inform us that a piece of apparatus is required to accomplish a certain purpose in a certain way and within certain cost limits. Here our relation to the system as manufacturers begins.

#### Meeting Requirements

We may then design several alternatives using as many parts of standard types as possible and making full use of all of the experience in the use of materials which we have gained in forty years. The most desirable model is selected and worked into manufacturing form. Samples are made and put through exhaustive service tests and finally something has been produced which the telephone company's officials and we are convinced will meet the requirements efficiently and economically. That is sometimes a long and costly process, but it has to be gone through whether the apparatus is to be used in large quantities or small, and whatever the price is to be; and it is only after it has been done that the piece of apparatus is named a standard for a certain use.

You all know the care with which we select and inspect our raw materials, our tools, our work in process and our finished product. Our customers expect and have a right to expect that when they get our manufactures they can put them in any service for which they are designed and use them with a minimum cost of maintenance and with uniform results. As manufacturer we provide what is wanted of uniform quality and at reasonable cost. For the Bell companies we are officially Purchasing Agent and Storekeeper. In this relation we maintain a large organization to find sources of supply, to study the quality and price conditions and transportation costs, besides actually buying and delivering the material.

We receive from the telephone companies along toward the end of the year a rough estimate of the quantities of the principal articles which will be required during the following year. At each of our distributing houses, located at a Telephone Company's headquarters city, the manager considers himself and the Telephone Company considers him to be their man. They tell him their plans as fast as they make them. It is up to him with the help and co-operation of the whole company organization to have the material where it is wanted and when it is wanted. That is easy to say but it takes well thought out methods and systems and careful, conscientious work to accomplish it with continual care to keep on the fine line between too much stock and too little stock.

#### 500,000 Orders

We gather their materials from the various factories, including our own, and distribute them through thirty-four warehouses, which we maintain in the more important cities and distributing centers of the country. We also distribute such ma-

terial direct from the factory to the place where it is to be utilized, as for instance line material which is shipped often from various factories to points along a line under construction. We fill annually for the companies under this contract about a half million orders. Some orders call for a single, small item. Some call for big switchboards. There is no way of estimating the value of the efficiency and economy coming out of this relation because since it first went into effect many other improvements have been working toward greater efficiency and economy.

For instance, when the first contract was made the supplies per station of the Bell System were over \$8. Last year they were less than \$1.50. Applying the difference to the total Bell stations would mean a saving in investment of between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000.

Of course, that has not all been accomplished by this relation, *but some substantial part has*. I think that any well informed telephone man would agree with me that the saving in annual expense and annual charges has been very large without making any allowance for a great increase in efficiency. In this way our relation as Purchasing Agent and Storekeeper has grown.

There are about 10,500 telephone companies in the United States; and 5,620 of them were our customers during 1915 for some portion of their requirements. Thus it is that the Western Electric Company has become a supplier to connecting and potentially connecting companies.

#### A Tremendously Important Function

I could go on and describe the ramifications and details of the work in these relations and give you figures to impress you with its magnitude, but it has seemed to me more important to show you in a more general way that while we perform a tremendously important function in a great national utility—that we are an important factor in it—we have come to that position by doing a good job and then a better job and then still better, so that the telephone companies have each year had more confidence in us and each year have given us a bigger part of the job to do.

#### A Natural Relationship

You will see by what I have said that there is no mystery in the relation between the Western Electric Company and the Bell System. It is a part of the growth of the telephone service and embodies the most practicable relation between the manufacturing and operating departments of a service which has developed faster and fills a larger field and is more universal in its relation with the public than any other. The development of telephone service to give the greatest benefit to the public required such a relationship as has existed and does exist between us and the operating companies.

In a new field and to a certain extent in

any field, the invention is only a starting stake in a long race. It is rarely complete or even ready to perform service, and not only must the invention itself be made workable, but auxiliary apparatus and facilities must be developed. Following the telephone came the whole field of telephonic development, the subscriber's station, the Central Offices, the connecting lines and subways with all the multiplicity of pieces and devices. These all had to be developed on right lines. Suggestions for improvement do not always originate in the laboratory or in the minds of inventors. They come from the machinist who is building or assembling the apparatus or from the operator who is handling the service, and in the laboratory and workshop they must be all coördinated and fitted into each other and there must be common control and common operation to get the best or even effective results.

Community of interest in corporations is something like blood relationship in individuals. If both parties are disposed to coöperate they get rather closer together than strangers ever do, but if either party falls short in the spirit or acts of coöperation they get farther apart than strangers.

Never get the impression that any part of this job belongs to us and cannot be taken away. It is a good thing for both parties now because both parties are efficient and they coöperate. Whenever either party becomes inefficient and there is no longer coöperation the relation will terminate.

The Western Electric Company is the workshop of the Bell System and the Bell service is the most effective in the world. That relation has contributed to make the Western Electric apparatus the model for the telephone systems of the world. Our efficiency is reflected in the telephone service and the efficiency of the telephone service is reflected in our apparatus.

We are all proud of the Company, proud of what it has done and what it is doing; proud of its methods and proud of its men. We must go on doing better work each year and that means that each man and woman must take pride in doing his or her part the best that it can be done, and we who have the responsibility for distributing the rewards for good service must use all of our judgment to see that they go where the merit is.

### More About War Telephones

We have come to learn the importance of the telephone in modern warfare in a very general way, and it is only when some special incident in connection with the telephone systems of the European armies is reported to us by one of our correspondents that we realize to what extent this American invention is being employed.

In giving his personal impressions of a visit he had just made to the British front

in France, Lord Northcliffe recently said of the British telephone system behind the lines:

"It is no mere collection of temporary wires strung from tree to tree. The poles and wires are in every way as good as those of the postoffice at home. Marching with the army and linking up a thousand essential points is a telephone system that cannot be bettered. To-day it would be quite possible for the commander in chief, if he so desired, to call up London from beyond Fricourt. Where necessary the English telephones are linked up with trunk lines of the French government, for which interpreters are placed in the exchanges. The speed of communication is remarkable. It varies, of course, with the amount of business, but I have seen a man call up Paris, London and seaport bases in France, all within an hour."

At all times the armies exert every effort to protect their telephone lines from being severed, but even then it is quite impossible to maintain a network of wires, no matter if they be buried far underground, in the face of an immense bombardment. This, then, accounts for the confusion with which a defense of a series of trenches is conducted in the face of a heavy drum fire which has resulted in destroying all telephonic communication between the men in the advanced positions and the reserves and artillery to the rear.

From London comes the nonchalant remark of an officer, who evidently has been a prisoner in Germany. His statement, which again shows the drastic measures which the authorities employ to prevent their telephone lines from being tampered with, follows:

"I narrowly escaped being shot just after dawn that morning, because the Germans fixed the wire of a field telephone across the window out of which I was looking. The men told us that if the wire was touched the street would be shot to pieces."

An American newspaper correspondent recently obtained an interview with the Crown Prince of Germany over the telephone. In his hotel in Berlin the newspaper man was summoned to the telephone one morning, shortly after he had telegraphed a question on the duration of the war to the Crown Prince. He was informed that His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince was calling from German general headquarters in France. Under the marvelous system of military telephones, by which the Kaiser keeps in touch with every section of the frontiers, it was undoubtedly possible to put the call through without making an appointment for it the day before, as mere citizens had to do before the war.

An aid asked the newspaper man if he preferred to speak in English, and, answering in the affirmative, the reporter was at once connected with the Crown Prince himself, who had telephoned to answer the question.—*Scientific American*.

### A Modern Fable

Once upon a time there was a Young Chap who began at the Bottom of a Business. His work wasn't as important as the running of a Railroad or the managing of a Government, but the Young Chap treated it as if it was. From the way he charged into his little Clerical Job you might have thought that it was the Prime Ministership of England.

Right from the very start it was easy to see that he "hated" Work worse than anything else in the World, for he was always thinking up ways to get it done more quickly. He would spend whole evenings fussing and stewing over one little Idea, just to save an hour's time in the day's routine. It got to be so that his desk would all be cleaned up every afternoon by 3 o'clock. The Boss said there was no hope of keeping him busy on that job, so he made him a Chief Clerk.

But that didn't seem to help a bit. The Young Chap had caught a disease known as "System-on-the-Brain" and he soon had things lined up to cram a nine-hour day's work into six hours. The amount of time that the fellow found to read the Company's catalogs and Business magazines was a caution. It got to be so noticeable that the Western Manager said he couldn't stand for any such Loafing as that a moment longer. The Young Chap had to be kept busy, he said, even if they had to make him a Branch Manager. Which they did.

There was a Mountain of work connected with this job, and for about a month the Young Chap didn't get time to eat more than a sandwich for lunch. But he soon fell into his Idle Ways again. By reorganizing his branch department and putting in some crazy sort of a new method of selling goods, that no one had ever heard of before, he found he had just as much extra time at his command as ever.

Finally the Board of Directors heard about his Idle Ways and decided to have a Business Doctor examine him. The Doctor pronounced it an incurable case of Executive Ability. So, as a last desperate resort to keep the Young Man busy, they made him a Vice President.

"How do you do it?" they asked him.

Then he told them that he always planned his work ahead, did one thing at a time, and did that well.—John R. Colter in *Wells Fargo Messenger*.

### Man Must Work

Man must work—that is inevitable. He may work grudgingly, or he may work gratefully; he may work as a man, or he may work as a slave. He cannot always choose his work, but he can go about it in a cheerful, generous temper and with an uplooking heart. There is no work so rude that he may not exalt it; there is no work so dull that he may not enliven it. But—he must work.—*N. C. R. News*.



## Assignment Methods in Chicago

By TOM MURRAY  
Assignment Division, Chicago

In the early stages of telephone development, the assignment of new stations was comparatively a simply matter. The development of the telephone has reached a point where we now have over 440,000 stations in Chicago, or approximately a telephone for every six inhabitants, and telephone service has become a part of everyday life, both business and social.

The first assignment record consisted of a cable book and a good memory. The volume of business did not warrant specialization, as there were but few difficulties, owing to the fact that the "assignment clerk" of the morning would be the "installer" of the afternoon, and the evening operator.

During the period of rapid growth from 1897, assignment methods were changed from time to time to meet the existing conditions. The first system was used for both assignment and directory delivery. It consisted of a cable book, two sets of card records, one filed numerically by telephone or circuit number, the other according to address, and a map of the district drawn to scale of 300 feet to the inch, showing poles and terminals.

To assign an order the clerk would ascertain the nearest terminal by consulting the map, then alternately refer to the cable book and cards, until he found what was considered the most economical bridge. In those days, on account of the limited number of subscribers, instruments were not left in premises for future use.

Every three months the "contract department" would borrow the address cards for the purpose of delivering telephone directories.

The next marked improvement was the

"Block Number" filing system, which consisted of a map drawn on a scale of 100 feet to the inch in half-mile sections, showing the actual plant layout in detail. These maps were in book form twenty-six by thirty-six inches in size, and required extra tables. Each block was given an arbitrary number and all cards for subscribers in this block were filed behind index cards bearing this number. The



TYPICAL ASSIGNMENT DESK

assignment department at this time had the appearance of a wholesale woolen merchant's salesroom and sounded like a newspaper office on election night.

In 1911 the "Tier" system was devised and put into operation, and "proved in" beyond expectation. The increased number of subscribers simplified matters to the extent of making practicable the use of a block unit system of sub-station assignment.

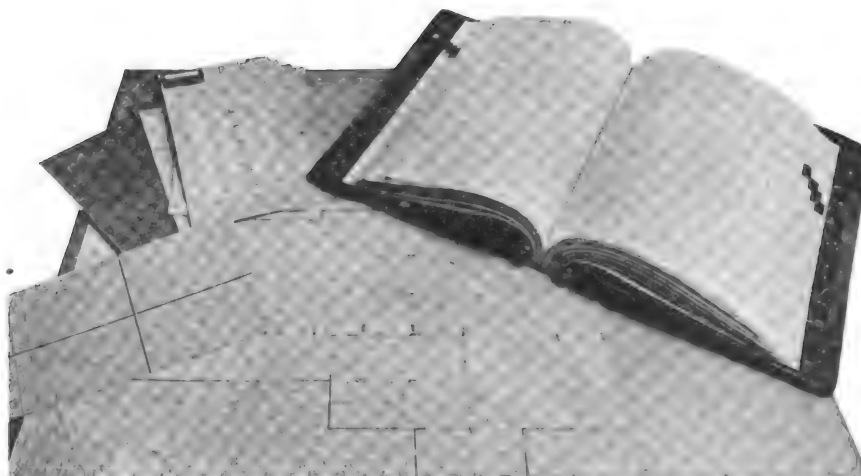
The maps were cut up and pasted to five by ten inch metal index cards, a city block to a card. These cards are geographically filed in tiers by blocks, using the street number as a meridian basis. For

example: A block 300 numbers north and 100 west of the base lines (State and Madison streets) is designated as North 3, West 1, and the card records of all stations located in that block are filed behind this index card. The single and two-party city circuits are entered on a green card, divided into four sections one for each boundary street. Four-party city circuits are on manila colored cards having a capacity of four circuits to a card. Neighborhood service one and two-party circuits are entered on red cards and the four-party circuits on orange colored cards. All cards are arranged in specially built desks, according to exchange districts, two or more exchange districts to a desk. The clerk handling a certain district can refer to block map, consult all cards and figure the most economical bridge without leaving the desk. To facilitate the locating of a desired block card, a key map of the exchange is kept under a desk glass

showing street names and cross-section numbers.

In addition to the above, each desk is equipped with a chart showing the actual layout of the main and intermediate distributing frames. These charts enable the clerk to assign telephone number nearest to a subscriber's cable on main frame and bunching block nearest to multiple assigned on intermediate frame, effecting a saving of jumper wire.

All orders which cannot be assigned owing to lack of facilities, are referred to special assignment clerks, who make a careful survey from records of that particular location, and if necessary make a field investigation. If extraordinary work is required, the facts are submitted to the engineering and commercial departments, and if the case warrants, orders are issued to provide facilities needed. A record is kept by the special assignment clerks of all orders providing facilities, as to the dates referred to the construction department and completed, so as to avoid any delay in



ASSIGNMENT RECORDS



ASSIGNMENT SECTION OF ASSIGNMENT DEPARTMENT

assigning commercial orders after the outside work has been completed.

This system has reduced the number of errors, increased the capacity of the force and simplified assignment work.

### Plat Inspection

By **JOSEPH W. WILSON**  
Wire Chief, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Exchange plat inspection, a routine covering general maintenance of exchange plant which was put into effect in Wisconsin in January, 1915, has proved a big success in reducing aerial plant troubles. It provides a systematic manner of going over every piece of equipment, and will in the future lessen the chances of accidents and greatly reduce the aerial plant troubles.

Out of the fifty-two plats at the Oshkosh exchange which were covered during the year 1915, 191 drops were changed on account of tree interferences and height above streets, forty-nine cable terminals were found that needed attention, cables were protected in fifty-nine places from tree interferences and other objects, and four poles were found with decayed cross-arms that needed immediate attention.

For six months in 1914 the line and drop troubles averaged three and one-half per day, and during the corresponding months in 1915 the troubles averaged one and five-sixths, a decrease of very nearly two troubles per day.

All new work is being constructed with great care, especially with reference to protection of cables and wires, where it is impossible to avoid trees and objects that

are liable to cause trouble in the future.

As the work is being put up with the greatest possible care and the existing plant is being repaired from time to time, we soon expect to have our line and drop troubles reduced to an average of one or less per day.

Everybody boost for Plat Inspection; it is a great thing.

### La Rue Eats Peaches

Practically the whole population of the town of La Rue, Ohio, ate peaches for a few days recently. Those whose names begin with the letters of the alphabet from A to J, inclusive, ate theirs first. The slightly less fortunate people, with initials from K to Z, ate theirs later.

C. M. Tannyhill is a grocer at La Rue. A couple of months ago he received a car load of peaches. Now peaches, as almost anyone knows, are an extremely perishable commodity and it behooved Mr. Tannyhill to get the fruit into the hands of the ultimate consumer as quickly as possible.

While this problem was perplexing the grocer, he met Manager Kniffin of the La Rue Telephone Company, which is one of the live connecting companies of the Bell System in Ohio. Mr. Kniffin suggested that Mr. Tannyhill employ a special operator temporarily and have her call every household in La Rue and the surrounding district reached by the company's lines. The grocer did it. There are 550 subscribers in the La Rue exchange. By the time the operator reached J in the book the peaches were sold. Two more carloads were then promptly secured and disposed of in the same way to the subscribers from K to Z.

The telephone man who advises this sort of highly intensive sales campaigning, is sometimes met by the objection that the subscribers do not like it. But they liked it in La Rue.

### The "Get-Up-Late and Rush-Off" Habit

From the *Philadelphia Bulletin*

A girl who had acquired the rushing habit, says she checked it when she began to realize its consequence, and the story is a very interesting one.

She began in the morning by lagging in bed after being called, and from that time on she was perpetually striving to catch up with the lost time. She dressed hurriedly and carelessly, bolted her breakfast, ran for her car, buttoned her gloves after she found a seat, and reached her place of business in a mood that ignored the present and thought only of the future. Naturally her mistakes were many.

"I lived in that way until I was almost a nervous wreck," she confessed, "then I turned over a new leaf and began the painful climb back to health." She began right by getting out of bed promptly, thus securing time for her cold sponge bath, a few simple exercises and neat dressing. She ate her breakfast in decent fashion and started for her car. Thus far things went well, but she could not rid herself of the idea of hurry which had gone to town with her every working morning for months. We can imagine how she struggled to hold her attention to important facts as they presented themselves, but determination won in the end.

## New Type of Test Desk at Hyde Park Office

By C. W. BYLOFF

One of the most interesting of the many developments that have appeared in recent years is the new No. 12 Wire Chief's test desk. The first one of the new type desks to appear in the Chicago Telephone Company's territory was installed at the new Hyde Park office.

Telephone apparatus in general has been improved from time to time; nearly all types of apparatus having been changed in design or replaced by new types since the beginning of the common battery era. The wire chief's test desk, however, has retained the same or nearly the same circuit ever since common battery telephones came into existence. Minor changes, such as the addition of automatic ringing have been effected, but no material change in the design of the testing circuits has been made until recently.

The No. 12 test desk is the last word in wire chief's testing apparatus and is a radical departure from the desks heretofore used, not only in the design of its circuits, but also in its physical appearance. It is built in one-position sections so constructed that any number of sections may be joined in a continuous line. No filing compartments have been provided as it was thought better to build a separate cabinet for filing purposes, as it is thereby possible to meet local requirements more readily.

One of the most interesting changes in the design of the testing circuit is the use of a primary and secondary testing circuit. In the primary testing circuit is in-

cluded all the apparatus necessary for the more rapid routine testing while the secondary testing circuit contains the means for making ringing tests, etc., that usually requires some little time in completing. It is also possible with this arrangement to locate crosses between lines readily without the aid of a second tester.

The principal testing instrument consists of a combined volt-milammeter having four windings and four scales, viz., a 100,000-ohm winding having an 0 to 120-volt scale; a 20,000-ohm winding having an 0 to 20-volt scale; a 1,000-ohm winding having an 0 to 20-volt scale and a winding of less than 10 ohms resistance having an 0 to .480-ampere scale.

It is possible to measure resistance as high as ten megohms with a fair degree of accuracy, using the 100,000-ohm winding of the combined volt milammeter in connection with the 100-volt test battery. The advantage of being able to measure such high resistances quickly is immediately apparent to one who is versed in the art of locating faulty line insulation, as small leaks can be detected which would not be possible with a less sensitive instrument. The other windings and scales of the combined volt milammeter are used in much the same way that similar scales are used on the older types of desks.

The testing keys are so arranged that the necessary tests for determining whether any trouble exists on a line or not can be made with three movements of two keys. This simple arrangement admits of more rapid routine testing than is possible with the older types of test desks.

The standard 200-volt insulation breakdown test as installed in the No. 12 test desk is connected to a line under test by the operation of a spring-actuated revolving key which automatically places the

breakdown potential on the line, first through a high resistance and then direct so as to avoid unnecessary tapping of subscribers' bells.

The howler is also connected to lines under test by means of a spring-actuated revolving key which graduates the howler from a low to a high tone, it being impossible to connect the howler to a line except when the tone is at its lowest point. This gives the subscriber a warning so that he may remove the receiver from his ear should he be about to use the telephone at the time the howler was being placed on the line.

The test cords between the test desk and the various "B" units are equipped with a disconnecting key at the desk and a disconnect signal lamp at the switchboard so that it is unnecessary to order the test cords taken down over the order wire as the disconnect lamp at the switchboard will light when the disconnecting key is operated at the test desk.

Other refinements of a more or less minor nature have been made, making the new desk a very rapid and efficient means for locating trouble as well as performing all the other functions usually required of a test desk.

### Stung Again

Conductor—"What a nice doll you have, sweetheart."

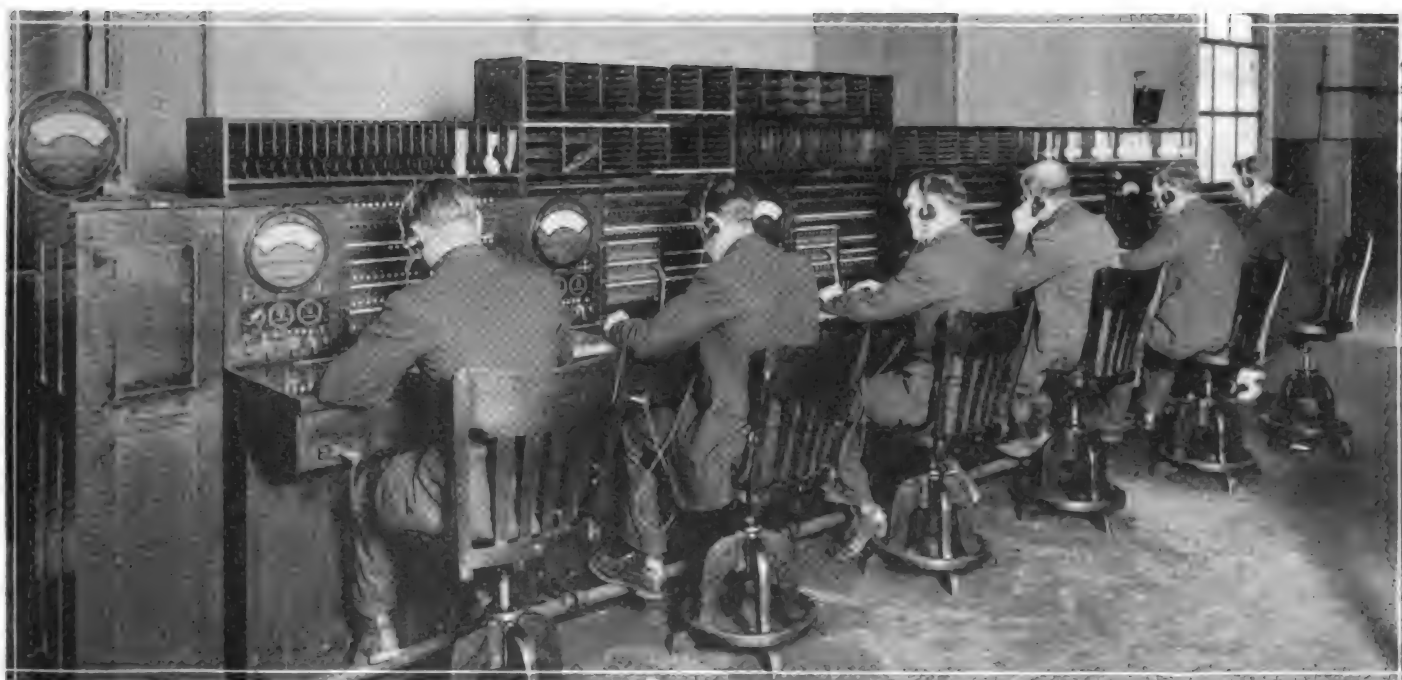
Little Girl—"That's my birthday present. I'm five years old to-day."

Conductor (to Mamma)—"You will have to pay half fare for your little girl."

Mamma—"Why?"

Conductor—"Because she is five years' old. She just told me she was."

Mamma—"Well, she isn't. She was born at 11:45 p. m."



TEST DESK AT HYDE PARK OFFICE, CHICAGO



## Life at Margaret Mackin Hall Is Smooth but Not Monotonous

Brief Notes from the Home

So carefully had matters been planned for the reception of the first girl visitors at Margaret Mackin Hall, that life at the newly opened recreation home for women employes of the Chicago Telephone Company, located near Warrenville, Ill., soon took on its normal but by no means monotonous aspect.

The first guests, twenty-nine in number, were given a special serenade on the night of their arrival by the Katyids,



A SNAP SHOT BY ONE OF THE GUESTS.

Left to right—Vice-president H. F. Hill, Miss Reuse, superintendent of the Hall; F. A. de Peyster, Traffic Superintendent.

whose music supplied a new sensation for city folks. On the second day at the Hall, all guests entered for a hike around the grounds, which only five kept up to the finish. For that evening a very pleasant musical program had been arranged by Roy W. Sullivan. Selections were sung by William Davies, Rose Mills of Wheaton and Mr. Sullivan, accompanied by Nora Lorine Ohlin, also of Chicago. Appreciation was not half expressed by the hearty handclapping, and it is hoped that this enjoyable evening may soon be repeated.

While falling into the DuPage river is not one of the premeditated attractions, nevertheless several of the guests have been able to prove that there is mud at the bottom of the stream.

During the first week of occupancy of Margaret Mackin Hall, a corn and potato roast took place on the banks of the river, around an immense bonfire. This was the first

affair of its kind that many of the girls had participated in, and they thought that corn cooked in this way could not be enjoyed. Much to their surprise it was so delicious that at one time it was thought possible the gardener would have to be called on for an extra supply. The evening ended with a war dance around the bonfire.

On August 28th, weather being favorable, an enjoyable evening was spent around the grate fire. The girls sang songs, told stories and toasted marshmallows. A most attractive picture was presented. Traffic Superintendent F. A. dePeyster was a guest for the evening.

Dr. McClellan, who is to be a frequent caller, made his first visit in time for breakfast one morning, and gave the girls a very instructive talk on "rest" which is the keynote of the home.

One of the big events during the so-far short existence of Margaret Mackin Hall was a "Stunt Party"—all guests participating. As the participants entered the play room and formed a circle, it was hard to award the prize. Particular mention might be made of "Sis Hopkins," represented by Julia Collins of Toll; colored mammies by Miss O'Connor of Harrison and Miss N. McAllister of Hyde Park; Lady Washington, by Lillian Fact of Kedzie; Baby Doll, by Gertrude Madison of the accounting department.

Fishing has been fine in Warrenville. Ask Oakland Evening Chief Operator Margaret McCarthy; she knows.

When Naome McAllister, one of the first occupants of Margaret Mackin Hall, left to go into the hospital for a few days, she was agreeably surprised by being presented with a handsome handmade boudoir cap, the gift of her many new friends.

Miss K. McDermott, evening chief operator at Kedzie office, a vacationist, entertained her supervisors at dinner during her stay at the Hall, and on the same day was presented by her girls with a beautiful bouquet of American Beauty roses.

The library is very popular, as can be judged by the picture of Miss McDermott,

on the next page, which shows her trying to finish her fifth book before train time.

Weather conditions at Margaret Mackin Hall bring about changes in program, but not postponements. This can be attested by the picnickers who had planned a picnic supper on the bank of the river, but found it necessary to change the location. The picnic was accordingly laid in front of the grate fire on the living room floor, on which tablecloths had been spread and baskets unpacked; a typical picnic lunch, consisting of sandwiches, pickles, cookies, ice cream and coffee was served. Then came popping corn and roasting marshmallows. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

Outdoor sports have been very popular,



IN THE FODDER

but not until the third week of September did the girls feel competent to enter into competition. At that time two teams to play a volley ball tournament were organized. They were named the "Margaret Mackins" and the "Reuses." The enthusiasm shown in the tournament inspired A. G. Seaholm, upon a recent visit, to offer a prize to the winning team. The tournament ended Saturday of that week and was won by the "Reuses." Mr. Seaholm sent a five-pound box of chocolates

to the winners. Each team had four players as follows: Margaret Mackins—Misses L. O'Connor, I. Blencoe, F. Poole, A. Flynn. Reuses—Misses M. Lecture, M. Ferry, A. Geipel, M. Ferren.

Several good books have been read to the crocheting class by Miss A. Pattee during her stay at the Hall. The crocheters worked in a circle around the reader.

During Miss Poole's stay at Warrenville she instructed a large class in swimming, this amuse-



A MERRY POOL PARTY

ment being exceptionally popular during the warm weather.

Miss Ingles of Mr. dePeysters's office was a guest for a few days last month at the Hall and volunteered to be teacher to several groups of tennis players; she being authority on tennis, was able to settle many disputes which arose during previous games by amateurs.

The second big event at the Hall was a pantomime entitled "Mary Ann's Beaux." The following is the cast of characters:

Miss L. Wise.....Father  
R. Thomas .....Mother  
G. Madison, M. Lecture, M. Maloney .....Suitors

The play was directed and staged by Frances Poole, one of the nurses from the welfare department.

Mrs. M. Langan, Main chief operator, was a recent caller at the Hall.

The front cover of this issue of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS bears a reproduction of a photograph of the entrance of the Hall.

### Joliet Gets a Hand

Organization, coupled with efficiency, has been the keynote of success in every well-regulated business.

If you doubt this, ask any captain of industry, any merchant, any shop foreman. They will tell you, almost without exception, that among the organized forces of any undertaking there must be efficient co-operation before satisfactory results can be expected. That is why the word efficiency has taken on such a large measure of importance during the last few years. First the organization—the schedule for conducting the business—and then the encouragement of capable workers who will devote the time for which they receive pay to the interests of those who give them employment.

Just as an illustration. During the recent electrical storm in Joliet, along about two o'clock in the morning, the night telephone operator for the Chicago Telephone Company noticed line trouble in the flashes on the keyboard. She called Manager A. H. White. He in turn summoned the plant linemen, Harry Lewis, and Dan Smith, ca-



MISS McDERMOTT

Trying to finish one more book by train time.

bleman, from their beds. Before five o'clock that morning a bad break in the cable at Bluff and Marion streets was repaired, and when the people awoke that morning their 'phones were ready for use. They did not know there had been a break.

This sort of efficient coöperation prevented 'phone interruptions to a large section of the city. It is the kind of team play we have been analyzing—the kind that counts, and counts big, in commercial and industrial affairs.—Joliet (Ill.) *News Herald*, August 20th.

### A Subscriber's Resolves

The telephone subscriber, at the ending of the year,  
Took down his 'phone receiver and put it to his ear.  
"Hello!" he said, "O Central Girl, connections do not break;  
I have some resolutions I am just about to make."

"Hereafter, when I'm calling for a number  
I shall not  
Fly into bitter tantrums if the number can't be got.  
Hereafter, when you signal 'Line is busy, call again,'  
I shall not be so foolish as to blame it on you then.

"Hereafter, when the telephone begins to ring full strong,  
I shall answer in a hurry, lest I keep you waiting long.  
Hereafter, when I make a call and am delayed a bit,  
I shall not flash like fury, or act as in a fit.

"Hereafter, when I'm angry when the talking is not clear,

I shall not yelp profanely till I blister up your ear.  
Hereafter, when another on my party line is called,  
I shall not rubber, either, till the line of talk is stalled.

"Hereafter, O! hereafter, Central Girl, I'll try to be  
Just as mild and calm and pleasant as you always are with me."

### He Agrees With Us

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETAIL DRUGGISTS.  
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN,  
WILHELM BODEMANN,  
HYDE PARK.  
Chicago, Ill., August 18, 1916.

Editor BELL TELEPHONE NEWS:

Read your item on Telephone Courtesy, page 25 (August issue). You are dead right—the telephone has not improved manners and courtesy.

I have no surplus supply of what passes as every day courtesy, but whenever I listen to a tirade by a patron of my public telephone directed to a telephone operator, I pitch in roughshod; I will not allow telephone operators abused and cursed in our place.

It is the height of ignorance and impudence to accuse an operator of wilfully and maliciously and with forethought giving a user of a telephone a wrong number.

If Mrs. Impudent calls for a number, she will hang on till she has her number, and the telephone operator certainly cannot be anxious to continue the tirade of Mrs. Impudent and will do her best to relieve herself of the impudent nuisance, as it were.

Yours,

(Signed) W. BODEMANN.

### Autumn

A haze on the far horizon,  
An infinite, tender sky,  
And ripe, rich tints in the cornfield,  
And wild geese sailing high;  
And all over upland and lowland  
The charm of the golden-rod—  
Some of us call it autumn;  
But others call it God.

—HAYDEN CARRUTH.



A JOLLY LAWN PARTY AT THE HALL



WATERMELONS FROM THE HOME GARDENS

## The Care of an Automobile to Preserve Quiet Running

Awarded First Prize in Contest Conducted by *The Motor*, a National Magazine of Motoring

To rid a car of the superfluous noises that develop in use requires systematic care and some devising. This is particularly true of the light car, which lacks the jolt-absorbing capacity of the heavier vehicle. Nevertheless, the light car can be made to run so quietly as to excite remark. Undue noises always mean either poor conformity or looseness; and, if neglected, any parts so affected are bound soon to complain.

In the following table, prepared for the Ford car, are enumerated the more frequent sources of noise, together with remedies that logic and experience have shown to be effectual. Troubles that would probably require adjustment by a professional hand have been for the most part omitted.

### Body Parts

**Top Support Bow and Bracket Iron.**—Play and rattle: Insert spring washer behind prop nut.

**Doors.**—Rumble: Use rubber-headed nails as buffers; or install "door checks."

**Lamps.**—Rattle: Tighten bracket bolts. If lenses are loose, press metal frame against lens or fit a thin metal strip between frame and lens.

**Windshield and Dash.**—Squeaking or vibration: Place a narrow strip of rubber or leather along top of dash as seat for base of windshield; adjust latter evenly, tightening all nuts and screws.

**Carburetor Adjustment on Dash.**—Chirp: A drop of oil at rod-slot in dash.

**Hood.**—Rattle: Tighten spring adjusting nut of each clamp.

**License Plate.**—Knocking: Metal plates, swinging ones especially, should be well backed with linoleum or leather.

### Fenders

**Front.**—Vibration and Rumble: Tighten supports at frame. Join fender and running board shield with "fender braces." Separation of any noisy contact edges with rubber or leather is sometimes necessary.

**Rear.**—Rumble, clatter: See adjustments for front fender. In addition, the mud shield on inside of rear fender is liable to knock against the fender support where the latter passes through it. The support rod should be given ample clearance.

### Running Gear

**Radius Rod.**—Vibration: A self-adjusting "anti-rattler" is the only permanent repair here.

**Steering Connections.**—Play: Snug adjustments, and perhaps the use of "silencers," are advisable.

**Speedometer Sprocket.**—Whir: Apply grease, not oil. Pound: A pebble or splinter may be found between the teeth.

**Springs.**—Squeaking and noise: Tighten

clips and adjust leaf retainers snugly. Oil leaves and shackles. Neglect to squirt oil near the top of the spring where it disappears inside the frame cross-member often produces a disagreeable crunching knock.

**Differential Gears.**—Humming grind: Flush with kerosene and use a graphite grease; if badly worn, a fiber grease.

### Brakes

**Service Brake.**—Chatter: A common annoyance. High-grade white asbestos lining, woven without wire, is recommended for all three bands of the transmission. In any case a change of lubrication from a paraffin to an asphaltum oil, or vice versa, is almost sure to cause harsh action and seizure.

**Rear Brakes.**—Squeak and grind: Rear shoes provided with wire asbestos lining are preferable from every viewpoint.

**Rear Brake Rods.**—Rattle: Look for play at end-yokes of rod. Clank or pound: Very deceiving. It will be found that the brake rod pounds against the rear truss-rod of the running board. Wind truss-rod well with adhesive tape.

**Controller Shaft and Exhaust Pipe.**—Clatter: The long exhaust pipe sometimes clatters against the cross shaft of the brake lever. Wire a sleeve of sheet asbestos around pipe at contact point.

### Engine Parts

**Exhaust System.**—Hissing: Almost invariably a leaking spark plug or loose exhaust-manifold gasket. Loud exhaust: Very probably the manifold coupling nut has worked loose and the packing has been blown away.

**Engine Pan.**—Rattle: Tighten any loose retaining bolts beneath wooden sill.

**Timer.**—Squeak: Oil.

**Crank.**—Rattle: A strap-and-cup holder of leather is the simplest solution.

## Fred Lippert in Accident

Fred L. Lippert, a sergeant in the First Illinois Cavalry, at this writing on border duty at Brownsville, Tex., was the victim of a distressing accident September 2nd. Sergeant Lippert, while most painfully injured, was progressing toward recovery when last heard from by his friends in the maintenance department of the Chicago Telephone Company.



FRED L. LIPPERT

Sergeant Lippert at the time of the accident was chief of the military police at Brownsville, an important and difficult post. The accident occurred when Sergeant Lippert, accompanied by Military

Policeman Herbert Oltman and Edgar Bryant, went to a house in the Mexican quarter in response to a call over the telephone for help from a young woman who said that a Mexican was beating a woman. She also described the assailant as being a "bad man" and warned the military policemen to be careful.

"We reached the house about ten o'clock," said Military Policeman Oltman. "Lippert and Bryant went in the front way and I went around to the rear. I came in just as the accident happened."

"Bryant and Lippert had walked up to the Mexican to put him under arrest. The Mexican backed up to the wall and made a lunge for Bryant's gun. Bryant got the gun all right, but the Mexican grabbed his wrist and the gun was discharged. Lippert fell and Bryant ran for a doctor while I picked Lippert up, both of us forgetting about the Mexican."

"The woman reminded me that he had escaped so I left Lippert and gave chase. I saw him running and caught him, but had to knock him out with my club before he would submit to arrest."

The bullet struck Lippert in the mouth and knocked out a number of his teeth.

The First Illinois has its own newspaper *The First Illinois Cavalryman*, published by Colonel Milton J. Foreman, and edited by newspaper men belonging to the regiment. The publication devoted its leading editorial to the Lippert affair, and said:

"The wounding of Fred Lippert, head of the Military Police, brought regret to every man in the First Illinois Cavalry and to his many friends in other regiments. To those who have had the pleasure to be in troops where he has acted as drill sergeant, the regret for the injury to a friend is increased by recollection of the uniform kindness and helpfulness which he always showed to new men and the quiet efficiency with which he conducted the drills."

"Well equipped as a fighter, for there are few if any better boxers in the regiment, Fred Lippert never is a bully, never picks fights and never dodges a fight when he is in the right about it."

"As head of the Military Police, as provost sergeant at the mobilization camp at Springfield, he never was accused fairly of abusing his authority nor of imposing unnecessary hardship on anyone."

"Those men who have been at the two camps, Springfield and Brownsville, hope keenly for his recovery and always will regard with respect and affection, Fred Lippert, soldier, gentleman."

Sergeant Lippert is the owner of a medal, presented to him by Coroner Peter M. Hoffman, of Cook County, Illinois, as a testimonial of the value of his work on the occasion of the *Eastland* disaster in 1915. Lippert recovered a number of bodies from the wreck.



# Public Utilities Commission Rulings

By A. R. BONE

General Commercial Superintendent, Chicago Telephone Company

## Rules Issued by Illinois Commission in Respect to Telephone Service

1. The lines and equipment of each telephone utility shall be so constructed and maintained as to eliminate, as far as practicable, all cross-talk and noise resulting from leakage and induction, and to insure good transmission over local exchange lines and long lines ordinarily used in the transmission of messages or conversations.

2. On new construction not more than four (4) subscribers shall be connected on any local exchange line and not more than ten (10) subscribers shall be connected on any rural line having a length of five (5) miles or less. On rural lines of greater length this number may be exceeded, but in no case should the number of subscribers on any one line be greater than that consistent with adequate service.

3. Each telephone utility furnishing service, alone or jointly with other telephone utilities, between any two cities or villages, in which exchanges are operated, should maintain, for through traffic between such cities or villages at least one (1) trunk-line, either direct or switched, with which no subscribers' instruments are connected. Where the through traffic warrants it, additional lines shall be provided sufficient to maintain adequate service.

4. Each telephone utility shall make such tests and inspections of its lines and equipment as may be necessary to insure the maintenance and operation of such lines and equipment at a high standard of efficiency.

5. Each exchange shall have sufficient central office equipment to meet all requirements and shall have sufficient operating force to handle the traffic at all times adequately and efficiently. Traffic studies shall be made and recorded at regular intervals by each utility in order to demonstrate to the commission that sufficient equipment is in service and the necessary operating force employed to handle the traffic with reasonable facility.

6. Every telephone utility shall make reasonable efforts to provide for meeting of emergencies such as failure of lighting or power service, sudden increases in traffic, or illness of operators; and should issue instructions to its employees covering the methods to be followed in promptly clearing trouble resulting from storms, fires and other emergencies which seriously affect the service.

7. Any telephone exchange serving more than five hundred (500) city subscribers shall be considered as giving reasonably

prompt service if ninety-four (94) per cent. of all the calls are answered in ten (10) seconds or less. All other telephone exchanges shall answer at least ninety (90) per cent. of the calls within ten (10) seconds. Where the traffic is insufficient to require the entire attention of an operator and the exchange is operated in connection with other work, slower service may be adequate.

8. Each telephone utility shall adopt suitable rules and instructions governing the methods and phraseology to be used by operators in the handling of all calls.

9. Telephone directories of exchanges serving more than one thousand (1,000) subscribers shall be revised, printed and distributed to subscribers semi-annually. Telephone directories of all other exchanges shall be revised, printed and distributed to subscribers at least once each year. All directories should be dated and should contain such instructions as may be necessary to inform subscribers of the action they should take in order to obtain adequate and efficient service.

10. Rules and regulations governing local and toll service shall be printed in all directories. Each public pay station shall be provided with a directory. There shall also be posted in each public pay station instructions for the use of the equipment.

11. Every telephone exchange shall maintain an accurate record of all complaints, interruptions or irregularities of the service, such record to include the date and time the trouble was reported, the nature of each complaint or irregularity, the duration of same, the action taken to clear the trouble, and the date and time such trouble is cleared. All reasonable efforts should be made to eliminate interruptions and irregularities and to properly care for all complaints that arise.

12. For the purpose of assisting the commission in enforcing these standards, each telephone utility shall file with the commission the name and address of the official or employee with whom service complaints and reports of irregularity shall be taken up to insure prompt and careful attention to such complaints and reports. One (1) copy of each issue of the directory shall be filed with the commission at the time of the distribution of such directory.

## Reinstatement Charge Upheld

In a case recently contested by a subscriber who had been required to pay a reinstatement fee and who held that it was

an unreasonable and unwarranted requirement, the State Public Utilities Commission of Illinois said:

"From a careful consideration of the subject, we are of the opinion that the regulation of the respondent, the Chicago Telephone Company, providing for the discontinuance of telephone service in case of non-payment, is a reasonable one, and that the requirement of the payment of two dollars (\$2.00) as a charge for reinstatement of service that has been discontinued for non-payment is not unreasonable and should be sustained."

## Per Cent. of Gross Receipts

Idaho Public Utilities Commission.

A provision of an ordinance providing for the payment to the city of a certain per cent. of the gross receipts of the company is not looked upon with favor by this commission. There is no reason in justice or equity why the users of the commodity of a certain public utility should be required to pay such a rate as to enable the public utility to pay to the city a certain per cent. of its gross earnings, to be used by the city for general purposes. If funds of that kind are needed a tax should be levied on all of the property within the city's boundaries.

## Abolition of Service Approved

The Illinois Public Utilities Commission holds it to be a rule of a telephone company that payment of rentals shall be made within a prescribed period, and that unless payment is made the service may be denied, is a regulation of the permitted character.

## Practice of Charging Subscribers for Periods During Which Service Is Suspended for Non-Payment Held Not Unreasonable

District of Columbia Public Utilities Commission.  
Walter S. Carter  
vs.

The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company

The commission does not find this practice of the telephone company unreasonable or discriminatory and therefore declines to take action requiring the company to omit from its bills a charge for the period of time during which service is cut off on account of non-payment of bills.



# Safety First and Accident Prevention

Member National Safety Council  
Member American Museum of Safety



IT IS EASIER TO TRY SAFETY FIRST THAN  
TO TRY TO WALK WITH CRUTCHES

THE GREAT BULK OF PREVENT-  
ABLE ACCIDENTS COMES FROM  
THE NEGLECT OF LITTLE THINGS

ACCIDENTS OCCUR ONLY WHEN YOU  
ARE OFF YOUR GUARD. BE CAREFUL

Personal care in the conduct of our work would have prevented almost ninety per cent. of the injuries reported by Chicago telephone employes during August. The chart on this page shows the distribution of the accidents. It will be noted that twelve per cent. were caused by tools; that is to say, the injuries reported were received while handling tools. Most of this class of accidents are similar to the following:

"Was drilling a hole through a brick wall and was using a star drill and a ten-pound hammer. In the course of his work the hammer failed to strike the drill, the blow falling on his hand." This was not a serious accident, but was surely preventable.

Another—"Was sawing a lead sleeve with cable saw, when saw slipped and cut thumb of left hand." In the operation of sawing a lead sleeve, the saw is very likely to slip, but with personal care on the part of the individual, the work can be done without injury. This is proven countless number of times each day when work of that sort is being done.

Another preventable accident: "Was lowering tool bag with rope. Tool bag caught on round of ladder, tipped over and a two-inch wood chisel dropped and struck helper below. Two points were involved in this accident. First, with reasonable care a tool bag can be lowered without tipping over. Second, the tools in it can be so secure that they will not fall out.

Almost as many accidents were reported as having been caused by slipping and tripping. This sort of accident is unfortunately so common that it is unnecessary

nent injuries result from the same cause.

Eight per cent. of the accidents reported were people bumping into objects, or into pipes, posts and one thing or another, or allowing their fingers or toes to be squeezed between heavy objects, but in nearly every case, personal care on the part of the person injured, before the accident, would have prevented it.

Seven per cent. of the accidents were caused by contact with sharp points, such as pencils, pins, nails, etc., two of the accidents being caused by our men stepping on nails. A particularly important feature of these kind of accidents is, that the wounds caused by them so often become infected. Not only are most of these accidents preventable, but after they have actually occurred we can prevent infection from developing in the wound.

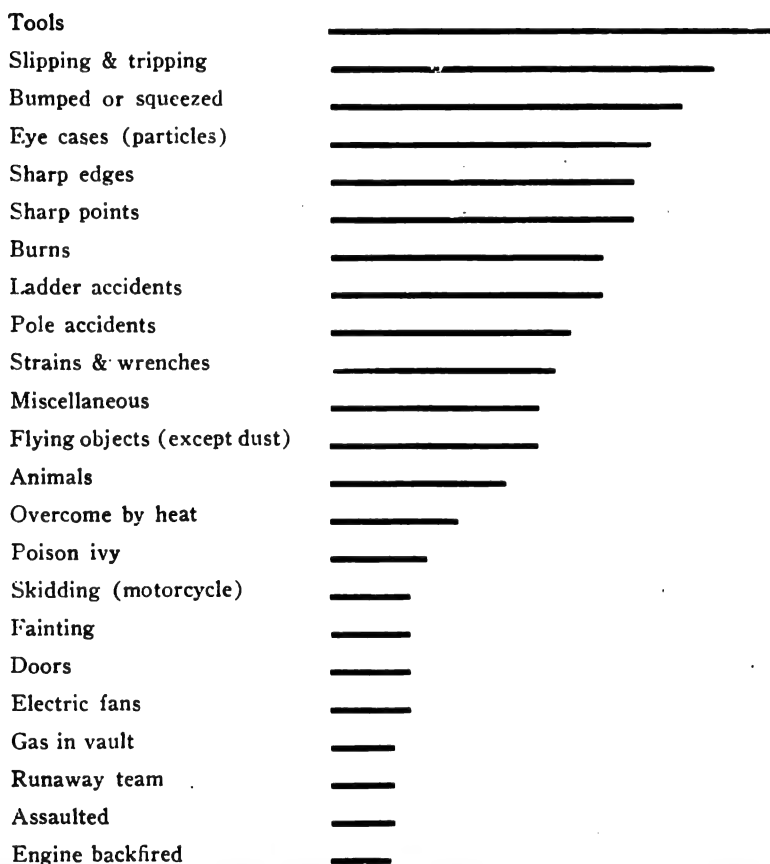
Study the chart showing the causes of the various accidents, consider it carefully and ask yourself, "Am I taking a chance?" "Am I on the job all the time to prevent accidents to myself and others?" There are a

few of us who can answer "yes" to the latter question. Let's get together and prevent the needless suffering caused by carelessness.

## Slight Wounds

It is unfortunate that many of us have gotten into the habit of ignoring what are commonly called slight wounds, such as any small injury in which the skin is

### CAUSES OF PERSONAL INJURIES REPORTED BY CHICAGO TELEPHONE EMPLOYEES IN AUGUST



to quote from them. The number reported should impress us with the fact that a thing that we can all so readily guard against is furnishing so large a proportion of the total number of accidents. They should not be disregarded because they, apparently, do not cause serious injury, for the records of insurance companies and of the coroners' offices show that many deaths are caused by slipping and tripping accidents, and that many serious, perma-

broken by a sharp or jagged edge, a sharp point or by being squeezed. We have all had such injuries in the past without serious result, but we must always remember that there is a large element of danger in ignoring such wounds.

Iodine, one of the best antiseptics known to medical science, should be used without fail whenever the skin is broken. Owing to our physical condition at the time, very often these wounds, which in the past have healed up without trouble, become infected, with very painful results, and always with the prospect of the loss of the member.

The time to apply the iodine is as soon as possible after the injury has been received. If you will use it promptly, the danger of infection will be practically eliminated.

### First Aid

A. C. Skafgard, whose picture is shown herewith, had occasion to apply first aid very soon after he had attended one of



A. C. SKAFGARD

our first-aid meetings at Belmont exchange, Chicago. His helper, Thomas Freeman, Jr., had an accident and had severed an artery in the upper part of his right arm. As soon as Mr. Skafgard saw the nature of the injury, he remembered what he had heard at the first-aid meeting, and immediately applied a bandage above the torn artery and stopped the bleeding. As the blood was flowing freely, and no one present at the time of the accident knew what to do, Mr. Skafgard's prompt action undoubtedly prevented the loss of a large amount of blood, which would have been serious, and possibly he saved Mr. Freeman's life.

It is pleasant to know that we have helped another in a dangerous situation, as Mr. Skafgard can testify. We congrat-

ulate him for his prompt and efficient action in this case.

### Safety Creed

I BELIEVE in the conservation of human life and limb; the development and preservation of strong, healthy bodies, and unmaimed; the elimination of thoughtless, careless and reckless acts; the saving of suffering, sorrow and misery.

I BELIEVE in honorable work, intelligently performed.

TO THIS END

I will seek healthful recreation and avoid those things which impair my mind and body.

I will train my mind and my hands that I may perform my duties in such a manner that I will not cause myself, my family nor my fellow man to suffer.

I will instruct the inexperienced, assist the weak, guide the strong, warn the unmindful, admonish the indifferent, and praise the vigilant.

### Good Advice About Telephoning

By EDW. A. UHRIG

President of the Milwaukee-Western Fuel Company, Milwaukee, Wis.

Reprinted from *The Transfer*

The manner in which a person uses a telephone indicates his character to a great extent, and makes either a good or bad impression. And this impression is reflected directly upon the establishment from which such message comes.

It is a pleasure to do business with a house which performs every detail in a clean-cut, satisfactory manner; but it leaves a sting to be answered abruptly or discourteously over the telephone. It is a folly to lose one's temper because one does not get immediate connection. This is rarely ever the fault of the telephone operators, who are nearly always courteous and prompt.

On account of additional trunk lines and numerous additional desk 'phones, our telephone switchboard is getting to be an extremely busy proposition and, in order to get the maximum service, it is necessary that each and every one using the 'phones coöperate to the fullest extent and I earnestly request that hereafter you follow these rules:

When calling a person use your telephone directory and get the number of the party you want to speak to, then take off the receiver and ask for "OPERATOR" and, when she answers, give her the number and wait until you get your party.

This method will relieve our operator of looking up numbers and remembering the different numbers that she is asking for and will give her time to devote more attention to INCOMING calls, and absolute-

ly necessary conversation that comes up from time to time.

The idea is to give the maximum amount of service to our INCOMING calls through each individual's taking care of his outgoing calls.

When leaving your desk to go to some other part of the office notify the operator as you go by so she will not be unnecessarily ringing your 'phone, and, when you do not answer, inquire all over the office to locate you.

If you are away from your desk it will facilitate matters very much if you will try and notice, when the telephones ring, whether you are called or not, and, if you are, do not call across the office, asking whether you are wanted or not, but, if you suspect it is a call for you, take the nearest 'phone and ask the operator.

Some persons, seemingly, cannot get out of the habit of talking awfully loud on the 'phone. This, as you know, is not necessary and is very annoying to the other occupants of the office. Should it be necessary to talk loud—or should it be a long-distance call, booth 'phones are to be used in such cases.

On account of so much outside noise, caused by the whistling of boats, passing street cars, etc., when asking our operator for a number or person, be sure and SPEAK LOW AND DISTINCTLY, so she will not have to ask you to repeat, which takes up considerable time.

One very necessary feature of the service is that you ANSWER YOUR TELEPHONE VERY PROMPTLY. You cannot tell who is on the other end of the line—it may be some very good customer who grows impatient if compelled to wait. Do not let him wait and thereby give him cause for complaint. When one is called to the telephone he should RESPOND QUICKLY, and the person calling SHOULD NOT BE LEFT TO HOLD THE WIRE TOO LONG—something decidedly irritating and often unnecessary.

With a view of MAKING OUR TELEPHONE SERVICE THE BEST POSSIBLE, the undersigned is going to follow the above rules in using the telephone and he will appreciate very much your co-operation.

Let us, throughout the whole office, strive to excel in SATISFACTORY TELEPHONING.

### A New Way to Telephone

A woman detained at a police court in an eastern city asked permission to telephone three of her friends. The police officials consented but reserved the right to listen in. They heard nothing, but the woman got her message across by using the Morse code, tapping on a table on which the telephone instrument stood. She thanked the chagrined officers and returned to her cell.



## Of Interest to Our Girls

Conducted by Mrs. F. E. Dewhurst

### A Compliment for the Telephone Girl

In the *Chicago Evening Post* a short time ago Karleton Hackett gave an interesting exposition of the value of distinct speech and pleasing voices in business. He began his argument by quoting the common statement that Americans as a race have the reputation of possessing the least pleasing voices and manner of speech of any of the civilized nations.

Unfortunately the reputation has not shamed us into any special effort to attain something better, and our schools have failed to meet the situation. Most of the work of educational institutions is confined to teaching accuracy in the *written* word, and a graduate's diploma has had nothing to do with the manner in which the student pronounces his mother tongue. His enunciation may be so slovenly that you are obliged to ask your questions two or three times to understand the answer.

"Many a man," he says, "has cursed the stupidity of his stenographer over some ridiculous mistake which made it necessary to rewrite a long letter, when the real trouble was that his own utterance was so thick that the poor girl had had to guess at a large part of the words and simply could not guess them all right."

And then comes the interesting point of the article, which we quote, as it gives credit to the Telephone School, which has devoted so much time to educating girls to speak clearly and distinctly.

"The telephone people were the first to sense the practical value of distinct speech and have been compelled to institute schools wherein their operators could learn at least

the rudiments of voice usage. Even now at least once in a while you get a wrong number, but think what it would be if Mag and Susie were left with their utterance pure and undefiled just as it had come from the family hearthstone? These telephone girls quickly learn to adjust themselves to a double standard and when they go to the dance with Jimmy they return easily enough to the vernacular, so that their social standing in the community shall not be jeopardized by putting on any style, but when they sit down at the operating board they talk very passable English.

"Now, whether Mamie, the golden-haired telephone girl with the sweet voice, always marries the dashing young millionaire, who fell in love with her through listening to her dulcet tones over the wire, may be open to question, but she finds two practical considerations which make it worth her while to pay attention to her manner of speech. If she cannot speak distinctly so that her record is charged with too many wrong numbers she quickly finds herself free to devote her talents to some other line of work, and if she uses her voice badly it grows hoarse with the day's work, she is always catching bad colds, which settle in her throat, and she has to give up her position.

"The practical value of distinct speech and attention to vocal hygiene is recognized in the telephone business, but it has not as yet made much progress in the retail region of State street. Yet they might gain very practical results from turning their attention to the matter. How much time do you suppose is wasted up and down State street in the course of a week by the necessity of repeating questions because you could not

understand what the salesgirl said? In the big stores time is money, and the girl who answers you with muffled utterance so that you do not know whether she said \$1.37 or \$2.59 is costing her employer money as well as driving trade to another shop. Goodness knows that she is not to blame in an enormous number of cases, for the original inquiry was frequently put so clumsily that it would have taken a mind reader to know what was wanted, nevertheless it should be a part of her business to see to it that no time had to be lost through her fault. How much do you imagine this wasted time would amount to in dollars and cents?"

Mr. Hackett does not point out another advantage which has been gained by the education of our girls in enunciation. The girls can forgive his reference to a "double standard" of speech when they think of the way in which they are educating the public by setting a standard, which it is beginning to imitate. The effect of a well modulated voice and distinct speech, together with unfailing courtesy, is not only beginning to be appreciated and the operator respected, but she is educating the subscriber who is imitating her more and more. And just in proportion as the subscriber realizes that he will get what he calls for, if he calls in the same clear and distinct tone which he habitually hears in response, will he be satisfied with the service.

### Impudent

"Hello! hello! Central, give me my husband."

"What number, please?"

"Oh, the fourth, if you must know, you impertinent thing!"—*Telephone News.*



STUDENT OPERATORS TAKING LESSONS IN DISTINCT ENUNCIATION

### Ladies' Tennis Tournament

The Ladies' Tennis Association of Chicago opened its 1916 tournament with a hundred and eighty entries. There was much interest shown by the players throughout the season, which increased in the semi-finals played at Oakland office and reached a climax the great day when the finals were played on the North Shore.

The champions of the four divisions were Miss A. Pike, Western division; Miss E. Hennessy, Central division; Miss F. Loula, Southern division; and Miss F. Goedee, Northern division.

This is Miss Pike's first season of tennis playing, but she reached the semi-finals by her creditable playing. Miss Hennessy has had several years' experience with the racket, and this year defeated her sister, who came near winning the tournament last year. Miss Goedee was playing in her first tournament, but it is her second season of tennis playing. Miss Loula has only been with the company for one tournament, but has gained much prominence by her athletic ability.

The semi-finals were played on the Oakland courts. These courts were in splendid condition, and regardless of the clouds and occasional showers, a good number of tennis enthusiasts and friends of the contestants were present. Miss Hennessy defeated Miss Pike by 6-1 and 6-0. Miss Loula defeated Miss Goedee by 6-4 and 6-3. Mr. de Peyster presented each of the participants with a manicure case as a prize for winning the division championship.

The finals of the tournament, between Misses Hennessy and Loula, brought together a large gallery of enthusiasts at The Courts, which are located on the lake front near Catalpa street and maintained as a private club by the telephone company officials and other employees living nearby in Edgewater. Each point was watched with intense interest by all, as the players were well matched and the games close. Hyde Park and Wabash rooters encouraged their girls with vociferous applause. Miss Hennessy won the first set by a score of 6-2. Miss Loula did not play in her usual good form until the second set.

At the beginning of the second set, each player was well "warmed up" and de-



MRS. F. E. DEWHURST  
Accepting a Challenge from Mr. Seaholm

termined to win. Miss Hennessy won the first game; Miss Loula, the second, and Miss Hennessy, the third and fourth. Then Miss Hennessy lost the next three games, only to win the following two. The score now stood 4-5, with Miss Loula serving. For four games each player won on her serve; then Miss Hennessy took her opponent's serve, the thirteenth game, and

her own, the fourteenth, winning the set, score 8-6, and match, 6-2, 8-6.

General Manager W. R. Abbott presented Miss Hennessy with a fine white sweater as first prize. In his speech he expressed his pleasure in the opportunity of congratulating Miss Hennessy and his satisfaction in the interest shown in the contest.

After the game, a delightful social hour was enjoyed on the lake shore, where hot chocolate and sandwiches were served and appreciated by the large company present. Hearty congratulations were extended to both of the players and the best spirit prevailed among the representatives of the rival offices in spite of the keen interest each side showed in the fortunes of its special champion.

The results of this year show that the game is well established, that the numerous company courts are a good investment, and that next year the winner will have to fight harder than ever before for the coveted place of honor.

### Tennis at Milwaukee

The 1916 tennis season of the Blue Bell Athletic Association of the Wisconsin Telephone Company was officially closed on September 16th when L. B. Barnes defeated Ed. Brennan in the finals of a fall handicap tournament for the championship of the club.

The match was taken in straight sets, the score being 7-5 and 6-3.

The results of the matches between those who qualified for the semi-finals were as follows:

Ed. Brennan defeated Geo. Crowell, 6-3, 6-3.

R. W. Wheeler defeated E. Gherz, 6-3, 6-3.

L. G. Barnes defeated H. W. Kroenig, 6-2, 6-3.

Ed. Brennan defeated R. A. Wheeler, 6-4, 0-6, 6-3.

L. G. Barnes defeated S. W. Pratt, 6-4, 6-0.

Ed. Brennan defeated H. W. Burr, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

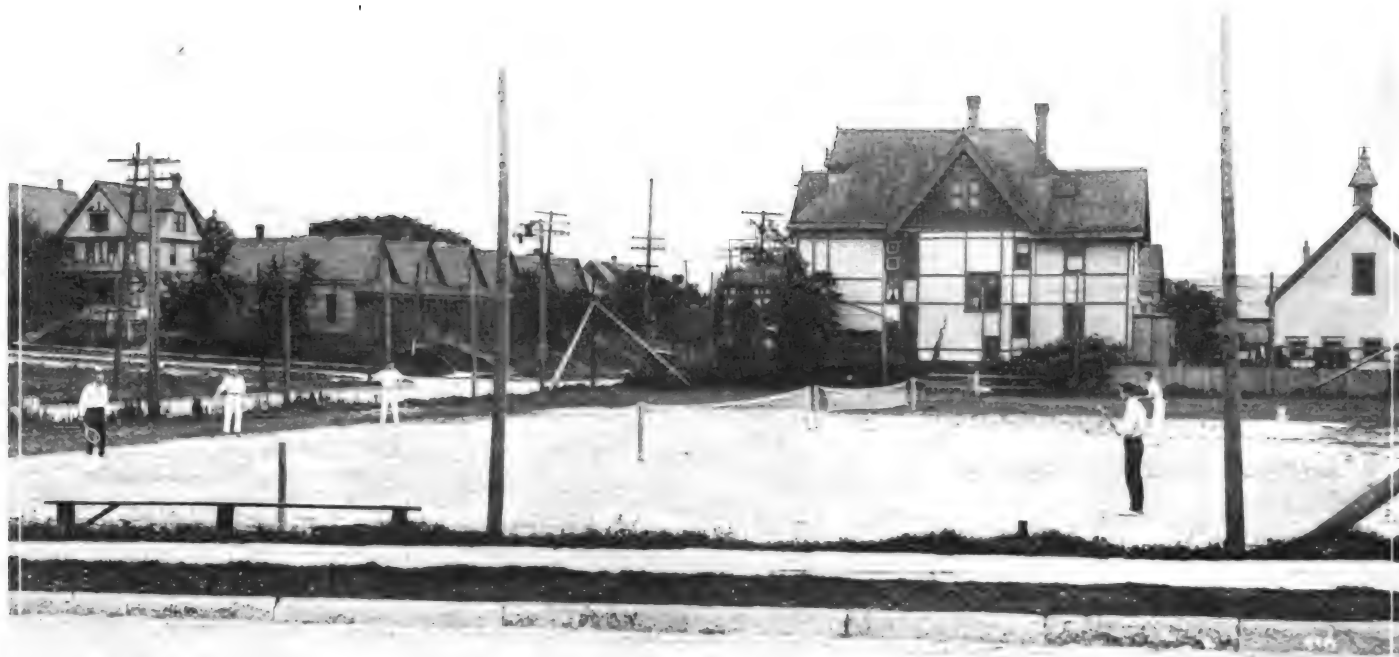
Finals—L. G. Barnes defeated Ed. Brennan, 7-5, 6-3.

The tennis germ first made its appearance at the Milwaukee exchange in the spring of 1915. It proved so infectious that a subscription list was circulated and signed by over thirty devotees and boosters of the



TRAFFIC SUPERINTENDENT F. A. de PEYSTER PRESENTING PRIZES TO SEMI-FINALISTS

Miss Hennessy, winner of the Tournament, is the third from the left.



TENNIS COURTS OF BLUE BELL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION AT MILWAUKEE

great outdoor sport. This provided for the leasing and equipment of four courts. Many of the original thirty-four men who helped to pay for the courts never appeared in action on them. Their generosity, however, was not wasted, as the courts were opened to the girls of the Wisconsin Telephone Company, who made things hum on the clay whenever the weather was right.

The present officers of the Association are: President, L. G. Barnes; vice president, W. D. Hobbins; secretary, John O'Day; treasurer, F. E. Chandler. These men, with W. O. Schilling, F. J. Mayer and C. H. Bullerjahn, constitute the board of directors.

### Ideal Bowling League, Chicago

STANDING OF THE TEAMS SEPTEMBER 25, 1916.

Team.	Won.	Lost.	Percent.	Average.
Executive .....	5	1	.822	780
Comm'l Engr. ....	5	1	.822	752
Assignment .....	5	1	.822	707
Maintenance .....	3	3	.500	679
Traffic .....	3	3	.500	611
Gen'l Comm'l .....	2	4	.222	718
Invincibles				
(Gen'l Plant) ...	1	5	.166	622
Relief & Safety....	0	6	.000	641
High average, Executive, 780.				
High 3 games' average, Executive, 809-1.				
High 1 game, Executive, 856.				

Along about the middle of September (Morn) the upper floors of the Bell Telephone Building at Chicago presented a scene of unusual rush and activity, due to the discovery that all good bowlers in the telephone company were not registered in the Bell League. As the entries in this organization were closed, an excellent opportunity to start a new league and develop some real bowling was seen.

Eight teams were coerced, enticed, cajoled and flattered to sign up, as follows:

W. I. Mizner in the executive offices.

Frank Redmund entered his office force as a team.

H. M. Webber and O'Sullivan French, in course of regular occupations heard about the league and entered a team. Peirce of the Maintenance entered a team backed up by Bennett and Hyatt as star performers.

A. R. Bone said, "Yes, I will enter a team. Luscombe, Ramsay, Clark and Simpson will be my bowlers."

Francis X. Seaholm of the Traffic entered a team of twenty.

Russell of the commercial engineers entered a corps of trusty lieutenants and Blodgett of the assignment, consolidating with Robert Cline's construction force, completed the league.

After considerable opposition and skulduggerous activity, W. I. Mizner, who it is rumored started the league, succeeded in being elected president.

It was a "relief" to find as "safe" a man as H. M. Webber for treasurer, while the office of secretary was handed to the working forces. A. W. Blodgett holds the title.

The first games were rolled Monday, September 18th, at Bensinger's Madison Street alleys, starting at 6 p. m. Taking the results as a basis, the members are good telephone men. The alibis were such things as a sore finger, Charley Horse, slippery floors, too much smoke, out of practice, "first time in a year," shoes and all the usual alley kicks, such as poor pin setting, bum alleys and balls, short runways and blinding lights.

An average of 100 was a cause of elation while 132 secured by Mr. Bone put

him in the aristocrat class, which only a few were able to attain. But the after effects must have been serious, as neither Mr. Bone nor Mr. Redmund, who also got into that class, were able to appear at the second performance.

Nobody knows what happened to the Maintenance Department team after the eventful first night, as Jack Riddel refused to state why the balance of the team or Peirce, Hyatt, Bennett and Norton did not show up the next Monday night, even though this team is extensively advertised as smooth rolling.

Ramsey and Holden could not be blamed for staying away, but Webber and Niven showed the stuff they were made of by being able to "come back."

Of course such bowlers as Thurston, Robson and Mizner ran true to form with better than 170, this average easily leading the league.

The foul line was apparently ignored and a paid attendant earned his money in pushing the bell and putting up the signals, and it looks as though foul line maintenance will be heavy.

Riots were averted by the prompt action of the "cool heads."

The results (not counting lame backs), are shown in the table at the head of this article.

### Billiard Tournament Proposed

Chicago Telephone employes who are billiard players are planning a tournament for the fall. A meeting will be held at the club rooms at 5:15 p. m. October 12th at which plans will be discussed. A. L. Neisler, of the construction department, is promoting the contest.



### Southern Construction Wins City Championship

On September 23rd the Southern Construction baseball team, winners of the pennant in the Plant Department League, Chicago, played Central Construction, winners of the pennant in the Inter-Department League, for the championship of the Chicago Telephone Company.

The Southern Construction boys were the victors, by a score of 13 to 5, in a game which was full of "pep" from the bang of the gong until the game was called in the ninth inning, on account of darkness.

After the fourth inning, Southern Construction was never headed and splendid hurling by McInerney and receiving by Scott, together with good support, was a little too much for the Central boys to withstand. Detloff, who finished the game for Central, after Shindle was disposed of, pitched a nice game but it was then too late. Timely hitting by the Southern boys, coupled with bad fielding errors by the Central team, defeated the Inter-Department favorites.

South Construction had a great season, being defeated only once and that in an extra inning contest which went to Hyde Park, the score being 5 to 3. The good pitching of both McInerney and Dzierlinga, the steady hitting and fielding by the team in general and the extra good management were the causes of the unusual success of the Southern Construction team this year.

C. W. Kenniston, enjoying his first year as manager of Southern Construction team, did something that his four predecessors failed to do and that was to "bring home the bacon."

### Outlaw Bowling League

The Outlaw Bowling League of Chicago opened its third annual season at the Palace Bowling Alleys, 141 North Wabash avenue, on Tuesday evening, September 19th, and will continue to bowl on Tuesday evenings until April 3, 1917. This league, which was formerly composed of ten five-men teams, is now composed of fourteen three-men teams.

The officers elected for the season 1916-1917 are: W. H. Bang, president, Sub-

urban Traffic; F. A. Mitchell, vice president, Suburban Plant; O. W. Krueger, treasurer, Suburban Commercial; A. J. Olson, secretary, Suburban Plant.

### Bowling Starts in Detroit

Detroit pin shooters got into action for the season Wednesday evening, September 27th. The opening game was made the occasion of an outpouring of telephone men quite representative of the employees of the company. Several executives and department heads were present and mingled their shouts of approval with those of numerous men from the ranks, thus creating a truly vociferous body of rooters and putting the right kind of "pep" into the contests.



SOUTHERN CONSTRUCTION BASEBALL TEAM

Top row, left to right—Thomson, Kenniston (manager), McInerney, Gerdes. Middle row—Anderson, O'Connor, Doyle. Bottom row—Scott, Wickstrand, Benson, Cosgrove.  
Absent when picture was taken—Mensch, Dzierlinga

Bowling in these initial games indicated that the boys are in good shape and that some real skill will be shown on the alleys this year. The Commercial aggregation, which copped the pennant last year, was in excellent form in the opening series, taking three games from Traffic. Ellis of the Commercial bowled 227, high score for the evening. Stevens, of the same team rolled 206. The Commercial boys will be strong contenders for first place this season, judging from the showing they made the opening night. Clarke, of Traffic, took position with the stars when he rolled 196.

The Engineers gave evidence that they will bear watching this year. They took

three straight from Accounting. Construction outrolled Plant in three games and Maintenance lost two to the Installers. Barrington, of the Maintenance, took honors in the games between the last two, rolling a high score of 198.

The season will extend over a period of twenty-eight weeks, beginning September 27th and ending April 4th. The league consists of eight teams of five men each, under a slightly different arrangement than existed last year. Instead of having one team from the commercial superintendent's office and another from the Detroit commercial as last season, there is this year but one team representing the commercial department. The same is true of the accounting department, one team of that name being on the schedule this season instead of the Revenue Accounting and Plant Accounting of the season of a year ago.

There will also be a team to represent the plant department, others being the same as last year, namely: Engineers, Construction, Maintenance, Traffic and Installers.

The growth of the company has brought many new employees to the Detroit offices among whom some excellent bowling material has been unearthed. The dope is that the teams will be considerably stronger this season and that the competition will be much more keen than last year. Most of the stars of a year ago are again on hand to heave the pill more skillfully than before, having started training several weeks in advance of the season. With an abundance of good material, the boys

feel that the Detroit league will be able to make a showing that will rank well with the best among telephone men in the middle west.

An unusually good line of prizes is offered this season. The League is putting up \$80 in cash prizes and the Sweeney-Huston Company is offering additional awards. League prize money will be apportioned as follows: High individual score, \$5; high individual average, \$10; high three-game record for any team, \$10; high team record for any one game, \$5; team winning first place during season, \$20; second, \$15; third, \$10; fourth, \$5.

The Sweeney-Huston Company offers a silver loving cup to the team winning first place; one hundred and twenty-five ten

## MICHIGAN STATE TELEPHONE COMPANY BOWLING LEAGUE—SCHEDULE 1916-17

6 to 8 p. m.		8 to 10 p. m.	
Alleys 1 and 2.		Alleys 3 and 4.	
Sept. 27th.. Accounting-Engineering	Traffic-Commercial	Plant-Construction	Installation-Maintenance
Oct. 4th.. Engineering-Commercial	Accounting-Traffic	Plant-Installation	Construction-Maintenance
Oct. 11th.. Engineering-Traffic	Accounting-Commercial	Plant-Maintenance	Construction-Installation
Oct. 18th.. Engineering-Construction	Accounting-Plant	Commercial-Maintenance	Traffic-Installation
Oct. 25th.. Traffic-Maintenance	Engineering-Plant	Commercial-Installation	Accounting-Construction
Nov. 1st.. Accounting-Installation	Traffic-Plant	Commercial-Construction	Engineering-Maintenance
Nov. 8th.. Accounting-Maintenance	Commercial-Plant	Traffic-Construction	Engineering-Installation
Nov. 15th.. Traffic-Commercial	Accounting-Engineering	Installation-Maintenance	Plant-Construction
Nov. 22nd.. Accounting-Traffic	Engineering-Commercial	Construction-Maintenance	Plant-Installation
Nov. 29th.. Accounting-Commercial	Engineering-Traffic	Construction-Installation	Plant-Maintenance
Dec. 6th.. Accounting-Plant	Engineering-Construction	Traffic-Installation	Commercial-Maintenance
Dec. 13th.. Engineering-Plant	Traffic-Maintenance	Accounting-Construction	Commercial-Installation
Dec. 20th.. Traffic-Plant	Accounting-Installation	Engineering-Maintenance	Commercial-Construction
Dec. 27th.. Commercial-Plant	Accounting-Maintenance	Engineering-Installation	Traffic-Construction
Jan. 3rd.. Accounting-Engineering	Traffic-Commercial	Plant-Construction	Installation-Maintenance
Jan. 10th.. Engineering-Commercial	Accounting-Traffic	Plant-Installation	Construction-Maintenance
Jan. 17th.. Engineering-Traffic	Accounting-Commercial	Plant-Maintenance	Construction-Installation
Jan. 24th.. Engineering-Construction	Accounting-Plant	Commercial-Maintenance	Traffic-Installation
Jan. 31st.. Traffic-Maintenance	Engineering-Plant	Commercial-Installation	Accounting-Construction
Feb. 7th.. Accounting-Installation	Traffic-Plant	Commercial-Construction	Engineering-Maintenance
Feb. 14th.. Accounting-Maintenance	Commercial-Plant	Traffic-Construction	Engineering-Installation
Feb. 21st.. Traffic-Commercial	Accounting-Engineering	Installation-Maintenance	Plant-Construction
Feb. 28th.. Accounting-Traffic	Engineering-Commercial	Construction-Maintenance	Plant-Installation
Mar. 7th.. Accounting-Commercial	Engineering-Traffic	Construction-Installation	Plant-Maintenance
Mar. 14th.. Accounting-Plant	Engineering-Construction	Traffic-Installation	Commercial-Maintenance
Mar. 21st.. Engineering-Plant	Traffic-Maintenance	Accounting-Construction	Commercial-Installation
Mar. 28th.. Traffic-Plant	Accounting-Installation	Engineering-Maintenance	Commercial-Construction
Apr. 4th.. Commercial-Plant	Accounting-Maintenance	Engineering-Installation	Traffic-Construction

cent cigars to the team making the highest one-game record and a like amount to the team making the highest three-game record; silver watch fob, individual high three-game record; same for individual high one-game record; gold watch fob, individual high average for season.

The various teams have elected captains as follows: Accounting, George Macfarlane; Construction, E. L. Dietsch; Engineers, M. C. Locke; Installers, C. Wardell; Maintenance, J. F. McCormick; Plant, H. G. Pope; Traffic, Fred Clarke; Commercial, C. S. Slack.

### Marriage by Telephone

Mark Twain once wrote what he considered a parody on the uses to which the new-fangled toy called the telephone might be put and made his hero meet a girl and court her by long-distance telephone. Courting by telephone has become common since then, but marriage by the same method is somewhat rare. However, it has been done, and now that the ice is broken, it may be utilized to the same resulting benefit of the telephone companies.

A couple out in Wyoming were all ready to be made man and wife when they learned that, owing to the immense snowdrifts, the clergyman who was to perform the ceremony could not arrive. It meant postponing the ceremony until spring, and that was not to be thought of, says an exchange.

The minister at Pinedale, forty-five miles away, was called up and asked if he would marry the couple by telephone. Being assured that the license was procured and the witnesses were on hand, he told the couple to join hands, and then began: "Dearly beloved, we are gathered together

here," and so on through to the finale, "I pronounce you man and wife." He could not exercise his time-honored function of kissing the bride, but he heard the groom perform that rite so enthusiastically that it was audible over forty-five miles of wire. The telephone tolls were thirty-six cents, but the minister will have to wait until spring for his fee.

### A Private Utility

In addition to being a public utility, the telephone is sometimes a private utility as well.

An installer under Foreman Pierce, of the exchange of the Central Union Telephone Company at Akron, Ohio, recently completed the rewiring of a subscriber's basement and the operations resulted in an installation according to standard specifications, replacing a festoon of wires strung across the basement. As the work was about finished the subscriber came into the basement and complained that the installer had removed her wash line.

### Pole Full of Hickory Nuts

The linemen for the telephone company made a strange discovery when they removed a pole on West Walnut street last week. The pole was known to be faulty and it was decided to remove it and replace it with a sound pole. When the pole was felled, a small hole, presumably the work of a woodpecker, was found in the top, but whenever the pole was moved the men heard a strange noise, as though something was rattling inside. They decided to cut it open to find the cause of the noise and upon doing so discovered the pole was hollow for quite a distance from the

top, the cavity being entirely filled with small hickory nuts. When the nuts were taken from the pole and measured it was found that there were six gallons of them. Mr. Brassfield, manager of the telephone company, says that his force of men will testify to the truthfulness of the story, and he has the nuts to show to any one who doubts it. Whether or not the nuts were stored there by the woodpecker or by a squirrel or both remains a question.—*New Vernon Plain Dealer*.

### Telephones for a Shark

The telephone operator at the Hotel Majestic in New York was puzzled when a strong masculine voice called over the wire:

"Hello, Majestic, I want to speak to a shark, please."

"Off a little," the operator said to herself.

Then she replied, aloud:

"Sorry, sir, but the head porter has just taken all the sharks for a stroll in Central Park."

"See here," came the voice. "I'm in earnest. I want to talk to a shark."

In despair the operator connected the anxious inquirer with the desk.

The clerk listened for a moment and then called:

"Boy, page Mr. A. Sharke of Hamilton, Ohio."—*Milwaukee Sentinel*.

### Not Wanted

"Please, ma'am," said the maid, "there is a man at the door with the new telephone directory."

"Tell him to go away," replied her mistress, "I haven't read the old one yet."—*Sunday World*.

### Girls' Social Club

"Where is Miss Effie Brown?" asked Father Walsh of St. Paul's Cathedral, Buffalo, New York, as a party of nearly one hundred Detroit girls were about to enter his church the morning of September 10th, for a special sermon previously arranged for as a part of the Buffalo trip of the Girls' Social Club taken that week-end. "Here I am, Father," spoke up a young girl slight of build who was standing right before him. "Well, I expected to see a woman and not a little girl," replied the clergyman as a smile spread over his face expressing at once surprise and admiration.

Upon the slender shoulders of this same Miss Brown rested the whole burden of the responsibility of conducting one of the greatest and most successful undertakings of the kind ever attempted by any organization of employés of the Michigan State Telephone Company. She conceived the idea; presented it to the general manager for approval; argued it into his favorable consideration; worked out plans in detail and then furnished the inspiration for carrying them into successful execution. It was an excellent exhibition of the amount of driving power that can be stored up in one slight feminine form.

The Girls' Social Club owes its life and existence to Miss Brown. Impressed with the social affairs of the traffic department, she determined last winter to attempt to get the girls comprising the clerical force in the various offices together for similar purposes. The response was quite hearty and girls had some pretty good times. During the summer season, interest lagged and the skeptics seemed to be winning the upper hand. "I decided that we would have to make a big splash to stir up the proper amount of interest in the club," said Miss Brown, "and I thought there was no better way of doing it than by taking a trip to Buffalo and Niagara Falls. It seemed to me, too, that it would be an excellent 'ad' for the company and would do good all round. I have never had any experience at a thing of this kind, but I could see no reason why we could not go ahead, anyway. I got everyone who was willing to help, to do so. Whenever I heard of any of the girls 'knocking' our plans, I went to them and put them to work. Each one did her part splendidly and thus it happened that we had such a successful and delightful trip."

That is the inside story of how 102 members of the Girls' Social Club came to board the Steamer *City of Detroit III*, the afternoon of September 9th to start for Buffalo and Niagara Falls. But better than that, they are the inside facts of what transpired to put a lot of "pep" and "ginger" into the lagging interest of this young organization and to put every member right on tip-toe.

The trip was free of charge to all members and cost others who cared to join at the eleventh hour only one-half the regular fare. Lack of funds? That was a trifle easily brushed aside. Miss Brown was able to negotiate a loan to cover expenses. The money could be raised and the treasury reimbursed by giving a bazaar later in the fall. The girls thought it a capital idea. They gave her solid backing and now every one of them is working tooth and nail to make the bazaar a great money-making enterprise.

When this party of 102 jolly telephone people boarded the boat to start on the trip, they were bent on having a merry time, and every one of them declares she had it. They were more than delighted to have Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Welch aboard to serve in the capacity of chaperones. The general manager and his wife seemed to enjoy the novelty of the trip equally well for he beamed his best while Mrs. Welch had many a kind and complimentary word for the girls and made friends of them on every hand. Unable to resist the lure of the lake and river trips this summer, Mr. Judy and Mr. Findeisen, Detroit traffic chiefs, managed to break into the company of the Girls' Social Club and the girls were by no means sorry that they did, for these jolly gentlemen always contribute a goodly share to the merriment that prevails on such occasions.

One might well say that there was not an idle moment during the entire trip, for even after the sand man was supposed to have completed his rounds ripples of laughter and merry chatter resounded from one and then from another part of the boat as various members of the party became the butt of some clever little joke.

From the sound of this story, one might well imagine that Miss Hayes, social secretary, was in the crowd, and sure enough she was. The girls called upon her to give them the benefit of her experience and she readily assented. She took it upon herself, accordingly, to give every-

body aboard, the general manager, Messrs. Judy and Findeisen included, a good-night kiss. The hour of eleven had arrived, the time when all were supposed to be in their state rooms. Then Miss Hayes began her rounds, accompanied by the porter carrying a lot of packages. Gently Miss Hayes rapped at the various state room doors announcing she had come to give a good-night kiss. If one refused to open, the master key in her possession did the trick. In each instance the door was opened and to the surprise of the inmates a pound box of kisses was thrown into the room. Something special and really good was prepared for Mr. and Mrs. Welch. No response greeted the rap at their door. Miss Hayes entered quietly and deposited at their bedside a big basket of luscious fruit and delicious candy. Mr. Judy and Mr. Findeisen were also recipients of special favors. They suffered several convulsions of laughter when they received a basket with what seemed to be at first glance two little rag dolls, but which, upon closer investigation, proved to be a couple of bottles with "something good to drink."

Exercising her ingenuity to the utmost, Miss Hayes was able to spring a most clever surprise on Miss Brown by presenting her with a beautiful vegetable bouquet. With the aid of the chef, she had cut up some raw beets in such a way that they had the appearance of fine American beauty roses. Tied together with leaves, carrots, etc., interspersed in liberal quantities, it was a truly artistic creation, delightful to the eye if not to the sense of smell. Miss Brown prized it highly, and took it home.

Miss Finan, treasurer of the club, opened the door to her state room following several stern commands. She always does just what she is told. To the dismay of the inmates, a big burly porter entered. He dropped a basket of pretty flowers and beat a retreat. Miss Finan appreciated the bouquet despite the consternation its presentation had caused her.

Thus the night wore on into the wee small hours before the last voice was hushed and the ship, except for its crew, was completely wrapped in slumber. Sunday morning dawned bright and clear. Everybody was feeling fine despite the late hours that had been kept the night before. Arrangements had been made to have the party attend early services at St. Paul's Cathedral, Buffalo. The Misses Williams and Dunigan, of the New York Telephone



GIRLS' SOCIAL CLUB READY TO START FOR BUFFALO



Company, met the party at the boat and escorted them to the church.

When services had been concluded, special cars were brought up to take the party to Niagara Falls and around the famous Gorge route. People along the way could not have been left in doubt that it was a jolly party aboard the car. Big banners proclaimed who they were. For the benefit of the general manager, a self-appointed guide announced the arrival at a well-known chocolate house where cocoanut biscuits of exceptionally good variety might be obtained. A somewhat dilapidated old house was declared to be a nurses' home and headquarters of Miss Beryl. In a little while the girls found themselves gasping in amazement at the wonders of the great Niagara. The trip around the Gorge was thoroughly enjoyed and concluded in time to permit members of the party to inspect some particular place or to tarry a little longer at the side of the mighty cataract.

The hour for dinner arrived with all once more safe aboard the good ship *City of Detroit III* steadily ploughing her way back. Appetites had been whetted to a keen edge and it was a hungry horde that sat down to dispose of the delicious chicken dinner that had been prepared especially for the occasion. A large part of the dining room was reserved for the members of the club. It was plainly a Detroit telephone crowd that was aboard, for at each table was a delicious cake with the name of one of the Detroit telephone exchanges written upon it in colored sugar.

Through the kindness of Captain Simpson, the girls were able to make a complete inspection of the good ship on which they were riding, from the topmost deck and the pilot house to the engine room below, all of which was carefully explained by their genial guide and to their perfect understanding.

The girls felt greatly indebted to Gladys Butcher for the excellent entertainment she rendered both Saturday and Sunday evenings. A. J. Peckham also came in for a share of the girls' good will. He had taken an active interest in the project and so the girls took the trouble to inform him of the progress of the trip. He received a wireless sent when the boat was in the middle of Lake Erie, bearing the words: "Party success. Best regards from all. Steamer *City of Detroit III*, Girls' Social Club." A similar message was sent to Mr. Bradshaw.

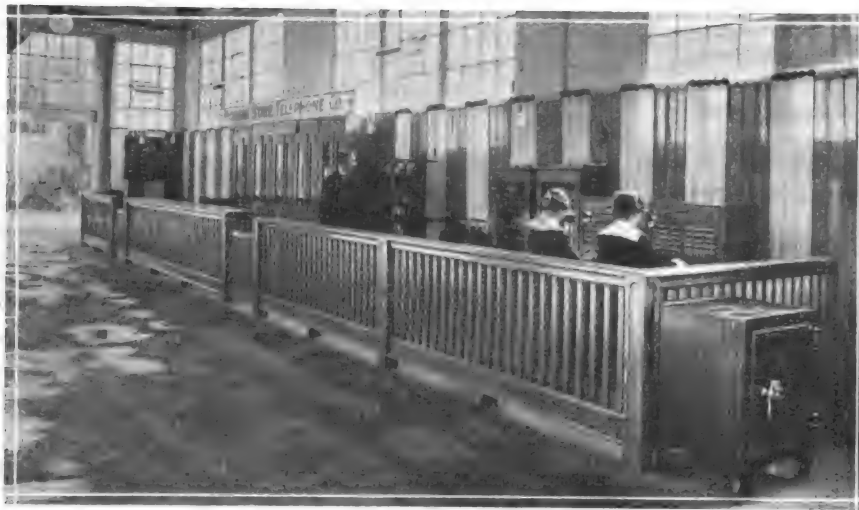
Monday morning found the girls back—M

at the Detroit pier, from which they had started the preceding Saturday afternoon.

### Michigan State Fair

Telephone service at the state fair was of the variety this year that won the approval of the public and praise from the management.

The Michigan State Fair was larger than ever before in every respect. The crowds were greater, as the weather was perfect, and consequently the demands made for telephone service exceeded previous records. Additional equipment had been installed for this year's exposition and everything was in first-class shape. Manager



TELEPHONE EXHIBIT AT MICHIGAN STATE FAIR

Dickinson of the state fair association said it was the best service that had ever been rendered on the ground. Long-distance calls were given special attention and the effort to put through calls without loss of time won many friends for the company, many out-of-town people and some from other states declaring they were given better service on the grounds than they got in their own towns. Margaret Wood, traveling traffic supervisor, was in charge of the exhibit and the satisfactory results obtained are largely due to her efficient methods.

The pay-station board located in the Main building had a two-position board—Hemlock 4100 to 4114—fifteen trunk lines. There were also five automatic pay stations—Hemlock 4130 to 4134, inclusive—where the public could place local or long-distance calls. Five fine French booths had been installed for this purpose, which added greatly to the appearance of the exhibit.

There was plenty of equipment to take care of everything. There were times when the operators on the building board had all connections up, but they did not have to refuse a trunk line to the central office at any time.

There were sixty-one terminals on the ground this year against fifty-six a year ago, and thirteen pay stations. Thirty-two terminals were given over to the state fair

association. Mr. Wells, installer on the grounds, and his assistant did excellent work and kept everything in good order at all times.

Miss Wood compliments the Hemlock office very highly on the good service rendered. Together with Miss Cahill, chief operator at the Hemlock exchange, she discussed the probable demands that would be made for service and Miss Cahill agreed to do everything in her power to maintain a high standard of service. How well she did this may be judged from expressions of satisfaction. The operators at the Hemlock office cooperated splendidly with those at the grounds and there was united effort to please the public.

### Rules

The important part of a rule is the spirit of it. This is gained by understanding the wisdom and necessity of the rule.

No rule seems hard when we see it is wise, worked out from experience and made necessary by existing conditions.

Older employees should be very particular in the observance of rules, so as to set a good example to the younger employees.

Ignorance of rules or instructions cannot be considered sufficient excuse for failure to comply with them. Know all the rules of the company, and live up to them. Follow out the spirit, as well as the letter, of their advice.

REMEMBER—You have the power to change rules at any time, when you can prove to your superiors that there is any real objection to them.—*Au Sable News*, published by Consumers' Power Company, Au Sable, Mich.

### Private Ownership

The United States has the most efficient and complete system of railways of any of the great countries of the world, and though the wages of railway employees are much higher, freight rates are much lower than in any of the other leading commercial nations.—*Public Service*.

### Quick, Watson! Spirits of Ammonia

A colored girl called in from Mrs. Seymour's telephone:

Operator—"Number, please?"

The Girl—"Ah, don' knows no numbah."

Operator—"Whom do you want?"

Girl—"Ah don' knows his name."

Operator—"Well, what do you want?"

Girl—"Ah wants a quarter's wuth o' po'k chops."—*Southwestern Telephone News*.

## Brief News Notes from the Field

### Items of Interest to Michigan Telephone Employees Gathered from All Parts of the Territory

Julius H. Moeller, Correspondent, Detroit.

#### Extensive Detroit Improvements

Estimates for new work amounting to over \$1,000,000 were approved by the board of directors of the Michigan State Telephone Company at their regular quarterly meeting Thursday, September 21st, at the offices of the company in Detroit. These are in addition to estimates of a similar character which were approved three months ago exceeding \$1,000,000. About three-quarters of this expenditure is for plant additions, necessary to meet requirements in Detroit. The amount covers the purchase of land, erection of buildings and installation of switchboards and all kinds of telephone apparatus.

The company is doing an unusually large amount of construction work in Detroit this year. Recently ground was broken for the erection of a new exchange at the northwest corner of Whipple and Van Dyke avenues, to be known as the Lincoln office. It will be the fourteenth exchange in operation in Detroit.

The new Lincoln exchange will be an unusually attractive building, probably the most handsome telephone building in Detroit. It will be constructed of red face brick and trimmed with white Bedford stone. With all floors and supporting pillars of reinforced concrete and metal doors used throughout, the building will be as fireproof as construction engineers can make it.

The building will be a three-story structure, but of a height often used for a four and sometimes a five-story edifice, because of the unusually high ceilings on each floor. The main floor will be four feet above the grade line, giving a large, airy basement for battery room, engine room, cable vault, etc. Plant offices and equipment will be located on the first floor. On the second floor and extending the entire length and breadth of the building, except for a small room to be used for hospital purposes, will be the exchange proper with switchboards containing sixty-six operators' positions, including both A and B.

On the third floor will be located the usual accommodations for the convenience and comfort of the operators, including a spacious rest room, café, kitchen, lockers and toilet.

The building will have 53½ feet frontage and depth of 136½ feet. There will be an unusually attractive entrance with wainscoting of marble, extending throughout the lower halls. The interior finish will be of birch, harmonizing with the switchboard equipment.

Construction of the Lincoln exchange will relieve the congestion in the Hickory office, which has resulted from the wonderful growth of the east side. For further relief an addition forty by eighty feet in size is being built at the Hickory office. This will give the Hickory office frontage of about eighty feet and will make it one of the largest exchanges in Detroit. Switchboard capacity will be installed to provide for anticipated growth ten years hence.

The new building now in process of construction, together with additions being erected, calls for the installation of 169 additional switchboard positions in the city of Detroit, requiring the services of approximately 400 additional telephone operators.

Work on the new East office, which is being built on Congress street near McDougall, has been retarded somewhat because of a shortage of labor and materials. It was placed under roof late in September. Besides the construction of these two new buildings, the company is erecting additions to existing exchanges or plans to do so shortly. A second story is now being added to the North exchange, providing 2,800 feet of additional floor space. A third-story addition to the Walnut exchange was completed in the spring. The engineering department, even with its in-

creased forces, is kept extremely busy preparing plans and specifications for the extensive improvements and additions being undertaken in Detroit.

#### Death of John Gilchrist

JOHN GILCHRIST, aged eighty-one, manager of the Citizens Telephone Company at Schoolcraft, died at his home August 23d.

Mr. Gilchrist was one of the oldest telephone men in the state and among the best known in



JOHN GILCHRIST

the independent field. He has filled all of the executive offices of his company, always working for the best interests of both stockholder and subscriber.

As head of the Citizens company at Schoolcraft, Mr. Gilchrist was one of the first among independent company officials to see the advantage of making his company a connecting company of the Michigan State Telephone Company. He was a pioneer in the connecting company field and without question one of the most ardent advocates of the connecting company plan. Under his management, the Citizens company at Schoolcraft has operated along Bell principles and cooperated in every way with the officers and managers of the Bell company.

Mr. Gilchrist was born in Vermont and came to Michigan just before the civil war, when his northern sympathies forced him to flee from Missouri, where he had previously settled. He served with the Twenty-fifth Michigan and was promoted to a captaincy for meritorious service. Following the war, he engaged in the lumber business and ranked as one of Michigan's foremost men of affairs.

#### Accidental Death of Miss Creedon

News of the accident which resulted in the death of Mamie Creedon, private switchboard operator at the Hotel Statler at about ten o'clock the evening of Labor Day, September 4th, was

received with much sorrow throughout the traffic department, but especially at the Main exchange, where Miss Creedon had worked until a little over a year ago.

Miss Creedon had reported in to the Main night chief operator at 9:40 p. m. and was just getting off the Fort street car to go to her home at 296 McKinstry street, when she was struck by an automobile. She died shortly afterwards.

Miss Creedon entered the employ of the Michigan State Telephone Company about 1901 and was an operator at the North exchange. She remained there for five years and five months and was holding the position of night relief chief operator when she left to take care of her invalid father. After a little over seven years her father died and on May 29, 1914, Miss Creedon returned to the Main office. Miss Creedon is survived by two sisters and a brother.

#### An Ingenious Farmer

"Telephone communication between Bay City and Saginaw was broken off this morning and business between the two places became congested," reported the *Bay City Tribune* in its issue of August 16th.

"Manager Saunders was at his wit's end to account for the interruption. He called for one of Daunt's taxicabs to make a hurry-up run over the route to determine if possible what was the trouble, and in fourteen minutes he had located the cause.

"Three miles south of Bay City the wires run along what is known as the Telephone Road. At the top of one of the poles was perched George Granger, a farmer, who was cutting the wires for the purpose, he said, of lowering them to within five feet of the ground so his wife could use them for a clothesline.

"Mr. Saunders was so impressed by the farmer's ingenuity that he simply removed the ladder which the farmer had used to climb the pole and drove away, leaving the tiller of the soil at his work. A report from the Saginaw road received late in the afternoon said the farmer is still up in the air."

#### Miss Hayes Surprised

The girls who work in the Detroit telephone exchanges take special pleasure in being able to spring the unexpected on Miss Hayes, social secretary. Many of the good times that the girls enjoy are made all the more pleasant by the thoughtful consideration that Miss Hayes, who manages these affairs, bears for each individual, and the girls in turn like to do those things now and then that give Miss Hayes direct evidence of their appreciation.

The girls in the Hickory office learned by chance that Miss Hayes celebrates the anniversary of her birth some time around the middle of September. They were uncertain as to the exact date, but would not let a little thing like that interfere with a royal celebration. They picked September 13th as the time for holding the jollification. Word was passed around that all would meet that evening in the Hickory retiring room to give Miss Chambers, chief operator, a birthday surprise. Of course, Miss Hayes was asked to be present and readily consented to lend her efforts to make the event a complete success. She never does otherwise.

Miss Hayes reported at the Hickory office in good season to see that the stage was properly set for Miss Chambers' birthday party. She entered the retiring room smiling her best, happy as a lark in the thought of the good time that had been provided for another. But to her consternation and utter surprise, a volume of shouts and yells greeted her ears indicating that she and

—M

not Miss Chambers was the victim of the evening.

When Miss Hayes overcame her bewilderment and the confusion subsided, she beheld a room prettily decorated in pink and white in her honor. Before her stood a table with good things to eat and loads of presents. Pretty festoons of pink and white paper ribbons hung from the chandelier to the corners of the table with pleasing effect. Many bouquets of fresh cut flowers added a gay color and scented the air with their fragrance. In these delightful surroundings, Miss Hayes was forced to pose for a picture.

Much merriment prevailed as Miss Hayes undid the many little packages that lay before her and revealed the novel presents which had been brought. After about thirty had been opened, she was presented with one large parcel which she began to examine with no slight suspicion. Importuned to make haste and assured that no infernal machine lay hidden within, Miss Hayes pulled pluckily at the paper and string until her efforts revealed a handsome leather traveling case containing a toilet and manicure set. Miss Hayes chided the girls gently for going to so much trouble and expense on her account, but her pleasure and appreciation could not be concealed.

Dancing and music were called into play to make merry the rest of the evening. Ice cream and cake were served. Ever since that evening Miss Hayes has been declaring that she has had many happy birthdays, but that the nth was the best of all.

### C. S. Edward Joins Traffic Force

C. S. Edward of Atlanta, Ga., is a new member of the organization in Detroit, having assumed the duties of toll traffic chief early in September. It was like coming home for Mr. Edward, as he had formerly lived in Detroit for a time while serving as district traffic chief for the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. He is thoroughly in love with Detroit and is congratulating himself on what he is pleased to regard as his good fortune in being transferred to the great motor city.

During the last three and one-half years Mr. Edward has been supervisor of toll traffic for the Southern Bell, at Atlanta. It is his eighteenth year of service in the telephone business. For a time he was in the employ of the Central Union.

Mr. Edward made the trip from Atlanta to Detroit by motor and had an unusually successful journey. Leaving Atlanta on Thursday morning, August 31st, he arrived in Detroit the following Wednesday morning. He covered the entire distance of 954 miles without the slightest engine trouble and only twice was it necessary to change tires. Mr. Edward drives a Lexington. The car registered 11,000 miles at the end of the trip. In the accompanying picture Mr. Edward is shown in the mountains of Tennessee, en route to Detroit.

### Social Club Bazaar

"Do your Christmas shopping early," say the members of the Girls' Social Club, and they are going to give everyone an opportunity to do at least a part of it November 9th, 10th and 11th. Useful and fancy articles, made by the members of the organization and their friends, will be offered for sale at that time at the bazaar to be held at the Y. M. O. Hall on Elizabeth street on the aforementioned dates.

The girls are all working like Trojans and everyone vows that the bazaar will be a decided success, fully reimbursing the treasury for the amount advanced at the time of the Buffalo excursion. Arrangements for holding the bazaar were completed at the meeting of the club held September 22d. It was decided that from then till the time of the event, every member is to use all of her spare time sewing for the bazaar and that this be made the order of the day for each meeting in the time intervening between the two dates. Miss M. Finan, treasurer, is chairman of the committee having the bazaar in charge. Booths have been assigned to the various departments as follows: Aprons, plant; handkerchiefs,

—M



MISS HAYES REGISTERING SURPRISE AND DELIGHT

division auditor; fancy bags, commercial; candy, traffic; miscellaneous, accounting; parcel post packages, new members. The governors of the departments will have change of their respective booths as follows: Plant, Miss E. Knoepe and Elizabeth Mahoney; traffic, Hattie Fecteau; division auditor, Alice Butcher; commercial, Della Moore; accounting, Grace Redmond.

In addition to selling fancy articles, the com-



C. S. EDWARD IN TENNESSEE MOUNTAINS

mittee will provide a program that will fully satisfy everyone who is looking for entertainment. There will be dancing every evening, with a charge of five cents per dance. Many excellent prizes are to be offered at the expense of a small sum to the winner. The girls extend an invitation to all telephone employees in Detroit and others who may happen to be in or near the city at that time to attend the bazaar, guaranteeing a pleasing entertainment to all.

### Weddings Among Engineers

Getting married is quite the stunt among the boys employed in the engineering department. With a record of nine marriages within the last year and a half, the engineers challenge any other department to make a better showing.

Lionel Chicoine, chief clerk to Mr. Kittredge, Michigan engineer, and S. R. Barnes, of Mr. Hutton's staff, are the recent additions to the Order of Benedicts in the engineering department. Mr. Chicoine celebrated Labor Day by taking unto himself a wife in the person of Anna Hester, also of Detroit. The happy event was consummated at three o'clock that afternoon in the presence of but a few friends and others were not apprised of it until the next day's mail brought the announcements. Mr. and Mrs. Chicoine took a honeymoon trip to Mackinac, remaining there one week. A bungalow at 626 Goethe avenue had been tastily furnished by Mr. Chicoine during the preceding weeks and was thoroughly equipped to receive its new occupants.

Mr. and Mrs. Barnes were married under unique circumstances August 15th. The wedding was perhaps one of the most novel ever performed in Michigan. Spending their vacation at Devil's Lake, Lenawee county, they decided to have the ceremony performed in mid-lake. They boarded the launch *Pastime* with a party of about twenty guests and when far away from shore, they embarked on their voyage over the matrimonial seas. Mrs. Barnes was formerly Bernice Baker of Muir, Mich. Mr. Barnes was employed with the Chicago Telephone Company before coming to Detroit.

### Detroit District

In the presence of a few friends and relatives, Chauncey Depute of the collection department and Marjorie Bouvier were married Saturday morning, September 23d, at St. Benedict's Church, Detroit. They left the same day for a honeymoon trip to Buffalo and Niagara Falls. The newlyweds are keeping house at 49 Begole avenue, Detroit.

A. T. Babbitt, chief commercial agent, spent a two weeks' vacation in Chicago the fore part of September. Mr. Babbitt makes it a practice to spend his vacation visiting some other telephone company to learn its ways. This time he was trying to find out what the Chicago Telephone Company had to offer and reports having spent a very profitable time in the Windy City.

Eddie Steiner, chief clerk to the commercial manager at Detroit, spent the early part of September roaming about the state of Wisconsin. He reports having visited relatives, but those who know him best are wondering if he was visiting relatives or near-relatives.

Activity has already begun in the commercial department in preparation for the bowling season. Commercial employees won the honors last season and they do not propose allowing the title to slip away from them this year, at least not without a struggle. Parties wishing to enter practice matches are referred to Mr. Hagar, terminal 73.

J. P. Wolcott has resigned from the collection department and has begun the practice of law in Detroit. He has been in the employ of the company about four years.

Dauphin Reed of the cashier's office returned to her duties in September following a leave of absence covering several months.

Mrs. Lena Smith, formerly principal of the Operators' Training School, has entered upon the duties of her new position as supervisor of pay-station attendants, overseeing the work of oper-



ators at hotels, depots and other public places. The position is a new one made necessary by the phenomenal growth of Detroit and the great increase in business transacted at the public pay stations. The promotion of Mildred Middleton to Miss Smith's position has previously been announced.

William I. Ward, well known among telephone men throughout the state as an able commercial agent, severed his connection with the Michigan State Telephone Company September 15th, having obtained a six months' leave of absence. He has taken a position with a commercial motor car company of Detroit and will travel throughout the southwestern states, with headquarters at St. Louis. Mr. Ward has been in the employ of the Michigan State during the last nine years.

The many friends of William B. Dawson were pleased to welcome him back into the ranks of active telephone workers September 1st, when he concluded a year's leave of absence forced upon him by ill health. Mr. Dawson is one of the oldest employes of the telephone company in point of service, having begun his career with the Michigan State more than thirty years ago. Before being compelled to relinquish his duties last year, he was chief service inspector and as such became better known to telephone users and employes than almost any other man in the employ of the company. Mr. Dawson developed anemia and was a mere shadow of his former self when he began his long vacation a little over a year ago. Skilled medical attention worked wonders and to the surprise and delight of his many friends he has been fully restored to health. His gain of twenty pounds in weight attests his improved physical condition. Mr. Dawson never developed the vacation habit, having worked for a period of eighteen years without even a few days off.

Claude Murray, toll traffic chief, who has been

unable to attend to his duties since the middle of June, is reported considerably improved. Mr. Murray has been suffering from an affection of the thyroid gland and has been confined to his bed throughout the summer. For a time his condition was so serious that friends were unable to see him.

Wednesday, August 16th, the fifth, sixth and seventh "A" divisions of the Cadillac office took a "hike" to Belle Isle. The girls went prepared to enjoy a picnic lunch. They drew cuts to see who would make the lemonade. Miss Sheffer was the lucky girl and set about the task while the other girls set the table. The only untoward incident was when Miss Shubring dropped the watermelon and deprived the girls of the luscious fruit.

Mrs. Marie Bullock, who came to Detroit last spring from Indianapolis, is the new chief operator at the Cadillac exchange, succeeding Miss Hoffman, who resigned on account of ill health. When Miss Hoffman reported for her last day's work at the office, the girls presented her with a large box of candy. On opening it, she found to her surprise a beautiful diamond ring set in platinum, the gift of the girls. Miss Hoffman has been with the company nine years and was very popular with the girls at the Cadillac office. Miss Bullock, her successor, was with the Central Union Company before coming to Detroit.

Gertrude MacPherson, former assistant to the East day chief operator, and Edith Gassman, day "B" supervisor at the East office, have taken positions as instructors in the Operators' Training School.

Twenty operators from the Ridge office enjoyed a bathing party at Belle Isle August 25th. The girls went over early in the morning, took a swim, walked around the island and indulged in all sorts of exercise to work up a healthy appetite by noon. During the afternoon a number of races were run. Prizes were taken by the Misses Casper, Golaski, Roegner, Kline, Wolber and McNeal.

#### Eastern District

Ann Arbor exchange has a real hero in the person of Edward Doran, toll line repairman. Recently he was driving in the company auto through the eastern part of the city when he saw



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smoke issuing in volume from numerous parts of a residence. Instinctively he thought of rescuing the telephone if there was one in the building. Stopping his machine, he rushed into the smoke-befogged building and yelled "fire," but there was no response. Then he invaded in search of the telephone. The first door he pushed open happened to be a bedroom, and therein lay a woman. She seemed in a stupor and he tapped her on the shoulder, urging her to hurry out, as the house was afire. Her answer to this was a demand for him to explain why he had come into her room without knocking. At this Mr. Doran got her upon her feet and with his hand on her back hurried her out of the house. Then he rescued the telephone. The next day a man called up Wire Chief George Collins, presumably the man of the house, and demanded to know what business he had removing the telephone.

Cupid, vacations and mumps combined to make inroads on the integrity of the Ypsilanti forces during the past summer. At one time Lyda Palmer, the chief operator, and two operators were down with the mumps and at the same time two operators were on vacation. Shortly before this time the bookkeeper, Hazel Palmer, had left the service to be married and her place had not been filled.

Eleanora, Edna and Harriet Hutting have resumed their regular duties at Ypsilanti after having spent two weeks visiting relatives in Monroe.

Florence McDonald and Pearl Tripp of Ypsilanti journeyed northward for a week.

Clara Kicherer of Ypsilanti reports a most enjoyable week spent at the Girls' Friendly Society Home at Mackinac Island.

Helen Oelke, Sarah Mosher and Mrs. B. Irwin of Ypsilanti spent their vacations at home. Agnes Rice visited Jackson and Hazel Wilson visited Greenville.

Viola Mosher, operator, and Boyd Irwin repairman at Ypsilanti, stole quietly away and were married.

Work installing an additional section of switchboard at Ypsilanti has been completed.

### Grand Rapids District

Monday evening, September 4th, the operators at the Big Rapids exchange, who worked election night, enjoyed a banquet at the Sellas Cafe given by the county officials. Manager Bradford was also present.

Lynn Robinson, bookkeeper at Big Rapids, spent a ten days' vacation at Grand Rapids and Detroit.

Wednesday evening, September 13th, the operators of the Big Rapids exchange met at the home of Hazel Ford, toll operator, for an evening of sewing. The girls formed a sewing club, for the purpose of making preparations for Christmas charity work.

The Grand Rapids commercial department has resumed its duties with the entire office help, each member having spent his vacation most pleasantly.

R. T. White, commercial—M



PARTY FOR MISS HAYES AT HICKORY OFFICE

cial manager, spent his vacation visiting his home and traveling in the east.

During the early part of August Miss Emmer, cashier at Grand Rapids, motored up the "West Michigan Pike" to Traverse City, spending several days there and at Hamlin Lake resort near Ludington. When asked regarding her experience, she says: "The weather was ideal, the scenery beautiful and the roads were good, bad and indifferent, but nothing exciting happened, not even a puncture. About six hundred miles were covered during the trip." Highland Park seemed to be the most attractive resort to Miss Christiansen, Harry Juersma, Mr. Kieft, Mr. Pierce and "Dad" Saunders, while Miss Spoelstra found Spring Lake and Holland very enjoyable. Miss Huyge visited in Chicago, Miss Wurzburg in Milwaukee and at Gun Lake, and Miss Eble at Muskegon and Battle Creek. Miss Duram and Mr. Kelly preferred a longer ride in an effort to get as far away as possible in the time given them. The former went to Indiana and Toledo, visiting in the latter place the Main exchange of the Central Union company in the Spitzer building, while the latter visited his mother in northeastern Ohio at Brady Lake.

On September 7th the girls of the Grand Rapids commercial office had a most enjoyable picnic supper on the *Major Watson*. Every one enjoyed the "good eats" and Miss Huyge is still "champion" of the sandwich and bun eating contest. However, Miss Christiansen can well compete with her in the olive and jam contest. The cake championship was rather hard to be

decided, as each one seemed to do justice to it (in fact, everything), but after careful consideration honors were bestowed upon Miss Spoelstra, as she was the most quiet during the cake course (of course). After enjoying several trips around the lake to music furnished by Miss Eble, the picnic was concluded with a theater party at Ramona.

"L. J." Walley, traffic supervisor, "Bill" Slocum, American Telephone and Telegraph traffic chief from Detroit, and "J." Johnson, traffic chief at Grand Rapids, have certainly demonstrated their ability as golfers. It is reported that "Bill" has the "form" for driving, while "J." has it for putting. "L. J." comes in as an "all-around" player.

### Kalamazoo District

William A. Badour, manager of the Eau Claire exchange, had a reunion of the Badour family at his home August 23d. His brother, Arlie Badour, of Charles City, Ia., was the guest of honor and also Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Badour, their parents, were in attendance. The Badour family is well known in telephone circles throughout Michigan. W. H. Badour, sometimes known as "Father" Badour, who is manager of the Dowagiac exchange, is among the pioneers in the telephone business in Michigan.

Hazel Price, night operator at the Eau Claire exchange, attended the Price family reunion, which was held August 20th, and reports a very good time.

Charles Baughman, who has been working under Foreman Bert Holmes, adjusting lines to the new county road work in this section, has completed his work and returned home.

Grace Fowler, chief operator at Buchanan, has returned after spending a pleasant vacation at Grand Rapids and elsewhere.

A new private branch exchange board has been installed in the Celfor Tool Company, Buchanan. It has fourteen more terminals, making thirty-one terminals in all, to take care of the increased business.

Mr. Fisher of H. E. Harrington's office has just installed one new section, No. 105 type switchboard in the Buchanan office, to take care of the increase in business at this exchange in

the near future. An increase of 75 to 100 new subscribers during the year 1917 is expected, due to the new factory of the Celfor Tool Company, which will employ from 250 to 500 skilled workmen.

On July 18th, a few miles north of Niles, on the Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan Railway Company's road, which is an electric interurban line from South Bend to St. Joseph, a repair car used for repairing trolleys and overhead construction was derailed at a curve and carried over an embankment. Besides demolishing the car and the overhead trolley wire, practically all of the men in the car were injured, two or three seriously. The assistance given this crew was furnished by a crew of Michigan State Telephone Company linemen



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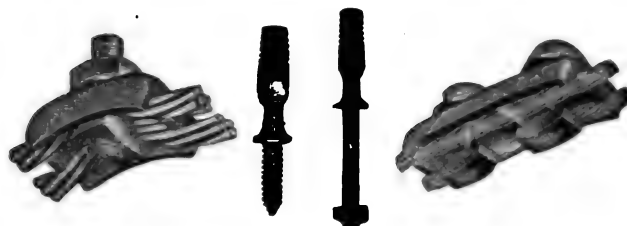
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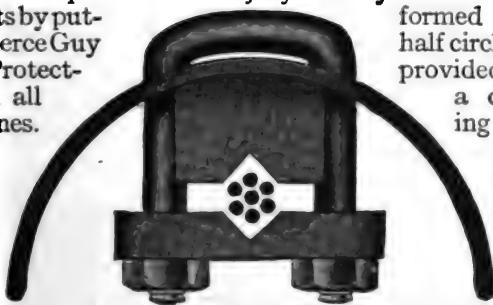
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under Foreman Bert Holmes, who were doing repair work near the location of the accident, but it would perhaps have been some time before anyone would have known of the wreck had it not been that Mr. Holmes was on an elevation in the grading work and saw it. He and his men went to the assistance of the railway men and helped get them into Niles for medical treatment. It is considered miraculous that none of them were killed, as the car was so badly demolished that rather than remove the debris, the company burned it.

On September 1st a party was given Irene and Catharine Hilliard, traffic employes at Benton Harbor, at the home of Stella Lyle, chief operator. Music and dancing were enjoyed, plenty of eats being served later in the evening. Irene Hilliard leaves for Flint and Catharine Hilliard to Mt. Pleasant, where she will attend the normal.

Northrup S. Van Horn was recently employed at Benton Harbor as repairman. Mr. Van Horn comes from the Chicago Telephone Company, having worked for the past five years in Joliet and vicinity.

Effective September 16th, Allie Cole, who has been employed for the past one and a half years at Benton Harbor as groundman, was promoted to testman. Arthur Maurer, former testman, resigned to attend school at Valparaiso, Ind.

Agnes A. Taylor, stenographer at Benton Harbor, enjoyed a vacation during September, Irene Hilliard filling her position.

William A. Badour, manager at Eau Claire, enjoyed a two weeks' vacation commencing September 11th.

#### Lansing District

Reva D. Plumb, operator at Portland, succeeded Mrs. Ruby Phillips, chief operator, September 1st. Mrs. Phillips is moving to Chicago, Ill.

Susie Petrie, formerly chief operator at Eaton Rapids, has been promoted to clerk in the commercial office.

Mrs. Leona Crostic, service observer at Lansing exchange, spent a week's vacation at Detroit.

C. E. Coryell, manager at Holt exchange, spent his vacation at Adrian, where he attended a family reunion, Saturday, August 19th.

Dorothea Fiedler, operator at Holt, spent her vacation at Eaton Rapids attending the camp meetings which were being held there at that time.

F. G. Tyler, manager at Owosso, began a two weeks' vacation October 1st.

Flossie Hill, chief operator at Mulliken, has tendered her resignation to take effect September 30th. Miss Hill is to be married. Clara Ramsey, operator at Mulliken, will succeed Miss Hill as chief operator.

Lorena Darling, operator at Holt, resigned to accept a position in Detroit. Miss Darling was succeeded by Viva Hall.

Mrs. Laura D. Hatfield, cashier for the St. Joseph exchange, was taken ill on July 31st with tonsillitis turning into rheumatic fever. Mrs. Hatfield was expected to return some time in September.

The following operators employed during the heavy traffic for the past three months have resigned: Louise Watson going to the M. A. C. in Lansing; Grace Glew leaving for Ypsilanti to attend school; Mary Snyder, traffic employe, Benton Harbor, resigned effective September 16th and will be transferred to the Detroit exchange.

Willis Boylan, who has been toll repairman at Lansing for the past year, resigned September 15th to

accept a position with the Owosso fire department. Vern Blatt, lineman at Lansing has succeeded Mr. Boylan.

James R. Burnett has accepted the position of manager of the Diamonddale exchange, to succeed Mrs. Etta Robbins.

Agatha Moldenhaur, chief operator at Holt, has returned to work after spending her vacation with her brother in Ann Arbor.

Emma Sepanek, toll supervisor at Lansing, was married September 16th to Lawrence Lung, an employe of the company at Lansing.

#### Menominee District

Twenty operators of the Menominee exchange engineered a surprise on Carrie Stauber at her home one Saturday evening late in August. Miss Stauber was formerly an operator at Menominee. The event was in honor of her marriage the following day to John Streidl at the Church of the Epiphany. Dust cloths were hemmed during the evening and prizes awarded to the one doing the neatest work. Mary Streidl was given first prize and Anna Reiter, second. Following this, the guests played progressive peanut, Lena Reiter getting first award in this contest and Nellie Lupien second. Dancing was a feature. Refreshments were served. The young ladies presented the bride-to-be with a bronze crumb tray and linen lunch cloth.

The following letter, together with six season tickets to the county fair, was received by the Escanaba manager: "Mr. Sundquist: Enclosed are six tickets for use of employes. We figure all could not go at one time and they can alternate using these. If these are not enough, please advise and we will furnish more. We appreciate the excellent service you are providing. Yours, "J. L. LOKELL."

Rose Mallette, toll operator at Escanaba, resigned September 1st, to move to Detroit to live with her mother. The operators presented her with a fine umbrella. Miss Mallette expects to take up telephone work at Detroit.

#### Petoskey District

On Thursday evening, August 17th, the Traverse City telephone girls were entertained at the Graystone Cottage at Edgewood by Mrs. M. B. Schryer of Chicago. An elaborate supper was prepared and was served down by the beach. It included a Weiner and marshmallow roast. A number of compliments were paid the operators by different subscribers who were present. One person remarked that when he called for a party and failed to get him, he always got a prompt reply giving the reason why.

Bertha Bohles, chief operator at Traverse City, spent her vacation at Charlevoix, Petoskey, Wequetonsing and Harbor Springs.

Last month Mary Folger of New Castle, Ind., visited the Traverse City exchange. Miss Folger has charge of the exchange at New Castle.

Mr. Shepard of the engineering department made a transmission test of the Traverse City boards recently and reported practically a clean record.

Between five and six hundred feet of cable is being installed at Williamsburg to replace an open wire lead running through trees which cannot be trimmed.

Marion Stan, toll operator at Traverse City, has resigned and will go to Cleveland. Her position is being filled by Ester Olson, vacation operator.

#### Port Huron District

Samuel Simmons, lineman No. 2 at Port Huron, has been promoted to toll line repairman at Bad Axe. Mr. Simmons and family moved to their new home September 12th.

Harry B. Lovell has accepted a position as lineman No. 2 at the Port Huron exchange.

May Smith, District Manager Failing's stenographer, returned to her duties September 11th after two weeks' vacation spent in Detroit and other points of interest.

On August 16th fifteen young ladies of the Port Huron exchange enjoyed a basket picnic at Lakeside Park. After supper the girls went in bathing and then went to the Bijou Theater.

Sadie Needham, chief operator at Port Huron, has resumed her duties after spending her vacation with friends at Columbus, Mich.

Albert Pontine, installer No. 2 at Port Huron, has accepted a position in Cleveland.

A theater party made up of twenty young ladies of the Port Huron exchange witnessed "Our Home Town Girl" at the Majestic Theater Monday evening, September 12th.

#### Saginaw District

On Friday, September 8th, Helen Dankert and Jessie Graves, supervisors, entertained at a farewell party given in honor of Katherine and Lillian Maitland, who have been transferred to the Chicago Telephone Company. Music and games were enjoyed, prizes being won by M. Watkins and Ina Church. As a token of esteem each of the departing supervisors was presented with a silk umbrella.

Helen Wescott entertained twenty girls at a "Girls and Boys" party September 15th. Each was dressed as a little girl or boy. Dancing and music were the amusements. A lunch was served by the hostess and then a flashlight was taken, which showed some really nice looking "boys."

Margaret McIlhiney, Ursula Boughner and Mabel Pound of the Saginaw exchange have been absent for the past month on account of illness.

On Friday afternoon, August 25th, the commercial and plant employes of Saginaw enjoyed a picnic at Wenonah Beach. Six machines carried the

participants to the beach. Immediately upon arrival the entire party went in bathing. Unfortunately, the water was rather cold and Commercial Manager Evans stayed out only long enough to roughen the bay by his violent shivering. Similarly, Commercial Agent Rideout went in to his knees, but immediately retreated to the bathhouse. C. E. Stark was conceded to be the champion swimmer of the crowd, easily defeating all comers. A picnic lunch was later enjoyed, especially by Traveling Auditor George Holland, who insisted on calling olives "Irish plums." The party returned late in the evening, after spending a thoroughly delightful afternoon.



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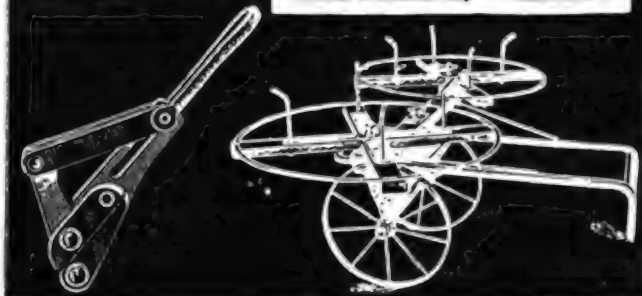


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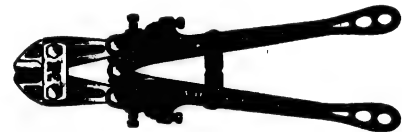
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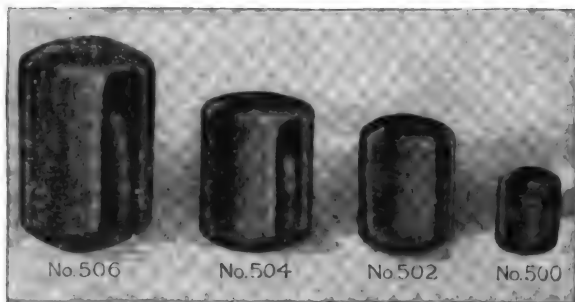
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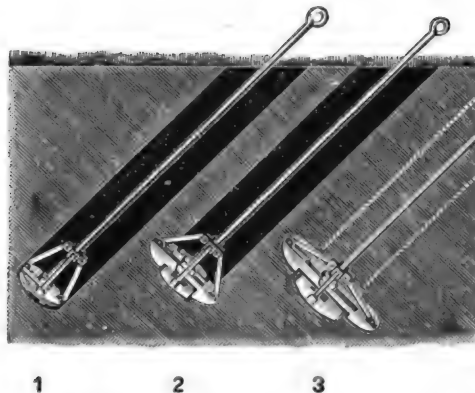


Fig. 1—Represents Anchor Placed at bottom of hole.  
Fig. 2—Partially Expanded. Fig. 3—Fully Expanded.

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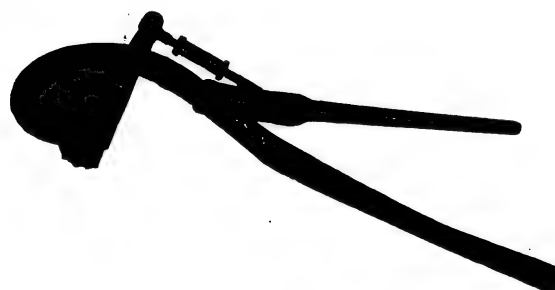


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## When Nature Turns Outlaw

*"Blow, winds, and crack your cheeks! rage! blow!—  
You cataracts and hurricanes, spout . . . . ."*

Thus King Lear, in Shakespeare's tragedy, defies the elements. But man, even today, cannot challenge nature with impunity.

The unsinkable ship goes down like a rock from the impact of an iceberg. The fireproof building is burned. The monument, built for unborn generations, is riven by lightning or shaken down by an earthquake.

There are storms which make train service impossible, which delay the mails and which close the public highways to the usual traffic. Even in the cities there are times when the street cars do not run, and neither automobiles nor horse-drawn vehicles can be driven through floods or high-piled snowdrifts.

Such conditions increase the dependence on telephone wires, which themselves are not exempt from the same natural hazards. Fortunately, however, the Bell System has faced these dangers and well-nigh overcome them. Masses of wires are buried underground and lonely pole lines, even the most stoutly built, are practically paralleled by other lines to which their business can be transferred.

Each year the lines are stronger and the guardians of the wires are prepared to make repairs more quickly. So each year increasing millions of subscribers find their telephones more dependable and, within the limits of human power, they count upon their use in storm as well as in fair weather.



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BELL TELEPHONE NEWS  
November, 1916

# Bell Telephones

AND CONNECTIONS

In the Territory of the

## Central Group of Companies

OCTOBER 1, 1916

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Connected</u>	<u>Total</u>
ILLINOIS	626,883	282,445	909,328
OHIO	228,851	219,097	447,948
INDIANA	108,431	217,502	325,933
MICHIGAN	248,934	83,051	331,985
WISCONSIN	<u>166,461</u>	<u>144,867</u>	<u>311,328</u>
	1,379,560	946,962	2,326,522



# BELL • TELEPHONE • NEWS

ONE POLICY

UNIVERSAL SERVICE

ONE SYSTEM

Volume 6

CHICAGO, ILL., NOVEMBER, 1916

Number 4



CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

## Cleveland: City of Progress

**Ohio Metropolis Is Leader in Manufactures and Commerce and Holds Front Rank in Art, Literature and Civic Development**

Plutarch, in his life of Demosthenes, avers that "Euripides, or it may have been someone else," said "That to a man's being happy it is in the first place requisite that he should be born 'in some famous city.'" As the memory of the writer of this article only runs back to the time of Mayor Tom Johnson, he cannot hope to clear up Plutarch on the authorship of the proverb. He has no hesitation in saying, however, that the native born Clevelander of to-day has a chest expansion, equalled only by later comers, indicative of the fact that in so far as the application of the proverb goes, Cleveland meets the necessary requirements.

And there is a reason—Cleveland is one of the principal manufacturing and commercial centers of the continent, ranks sixth in population amongst American cities, whilst in art, literature and civic development she stands in the foremost rank. This growth has taken place within a single century, for it was in 1815 that the Village of

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART, pictured on this page and also on our front cover, is one of the finest buildings in the world. It is located in Wade Park on a tract of land donated by J. H. Wade. It is built of pure white marble.

Cleveland was incorporated.

General Moses Cleaveland landed at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River in 1796, as head surveyor for the Connecticut Land Company. He "ran out" the lines that defined the limits of the 3,000,000-acre tract which his employers had purchased for forty cents an acre. General Cleaveland was a man of vision, for he foresaw that the city which bears his name would one day be the metropolis of the Western Reserve. But it is safe to say that even his fancy failed to accurately picture the great

city of steel and stone, with its broad thoroughfares, its vast business activities, its imposing civic structures, its beautiful residence districts and bustling business sections, all of whose foundations were laid in the pioneer Village of Cleveland.

And even General Cleaveland's credulity would have balked, we take it, had anyone been so bold as to say that any part of the land which he purchased at forty cents the acre, would one day sell at two million dollars the acre, the price now quoted for certain Euclid avenue property.

And imagine further what would have happened if it had come to the general's ears that someone had ventured the prediction that one day a man in Cleveland could sit at his desk and talk to practically any man, woman or child in the city, or in any other city in the country, over lines of copper wire, strung beneath the streets to 84,000 stations in Cleveland and stretching away through the country to 9,150,000 in

—M

the United States! His thoughts would have turned to Salem, where the practice of witchcraft was punished with burning, and he would probably have instructed some of his sturdy associates to light the fire. But to-day this very thing can be done over the lines of the Bell System, of which the Cleveland Telephone Company is the local unit.

This means of communication is essential to Cleveland's welfare to-day, for she has far overstepped local boundaries, and leads the world in a number of manufacturing and commercial lines. She is the largest producer of carbon products used in connection with electrical appliances; she leads in the production of paints and varnishes. On a direct line between the largest iron ore and the largest soft coal deposits of the world, she stands at the point where these minerals meet for the production of pig iron. She ranks high among the cities of the United States in the textile and wood working industries and in the production of machinery, and she is becoming an important factor in the manufacture of automobiles, automobile bodies and parts.

The latest government census report shows a 100 per cent. increase in the capital employed within the decade from 1904 to 1914, an increase of 123 per cent. in salaries and wages during that period and a gain of 105 per cent. in the value of products. She enjoys a large foreign trade, having exported something like \$15,000,000 worth of Cleveland-made goods to all parts of the world during 1915.

In the line of civic improvements, Cleveland has more than held the pace with the other big cities of the United States, and she has particular cause to be proud of her recent municipal building achievements, the gem of which is the magnificent new Cleveland Museum of Art, portrayed on our cover, and elsewhere in this issue. This beautiful building is located in Wade Park on a tract of land which affords a magnificent setting, and which was donated for the purpose by J. H. Wade. Built of pure white marble, the beauty of the structure is enhanced by the simplicity of its lines, and connoisseurs have pronounced it to be one of the finest buildings, artistically and architecturally, in the world.

Other splendid structures embraced in the "City Group" plan are the City Hall and the County Court House.

Then there is the great high level, double-deck bridge which crosses the Cuyahoga

River, connecting the east and west sides of the city.

Cleveland is steadily approaching the million mark in population; recent compilations show the present number of inhabitants to be more than 700,000.

The city has nearly 900 miles of streets, 560 of which are paved, and she is right now in the midst of a campaign for better pavements, in which Mayor Davis and other city officials and public spirited citizens, including officials of the Cleveland Telephone Company, are taking an active part. One hundred active organizations

streets in connection with its telephone lectures, given before civic organizations from time to time by Traffic Superintendent Anderson.

The history of the Cleveland Telephone Company is a story of uninterrupted progress from the beginning, and, being linked so closely with industrial, commercial and social affairs, it reflects, probably better than any other single factor, the steady advancement of the city.

From less than 100 telephones in 1879, the business of the Bell Telephone Company has increased to 84,000 telephones, which are connected at present. When operations were first begun, a small room was ample to care for all of the company's business; to-day it owns ten large office buildings and rents quarters in two other buildings. It has 2,300 employes, 1,300 of whom are telephone operators, and it pays out more than \$1,500,000 a year in salaries and wages.

Not so very many years ago, 1,000 messages per day was considered a heavy traffic load; now the various offices handle on an average 550,000 messages daily, a yearly total of 200,750,000 messages.

The first Bell telephone exchange in Cleveland was established two years after Professor Alexander Graham Bell demonstrated his wonderful invention at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876. It was in charge of E. P. Wright, who looked after the telephone business incidental to performing his duties as superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph Company. The office was located in a room in the Board of Trade building on Water street, which is now West Ninth street.

From the Water street location, the office was moved to the attic floor of a building on Superior street

where all of the telephone wires entered the building through a tower on the roof. As business increased, larger quarters were required and along in the latter part of 1888, the company removed to a building of its own at the corner of what were then Seneca and Michigan streets, now West Third street and Prospect avenue respectively. This location is diagonally across from the present Main office, into which the company moved in January, 1898.

Some of the older employes vividly recall an incident that took place in connection with the transfer from Superior street. At that time, practically the entire outside plant consisted of open wires and the job of cutting over from one office to another was a big one. Just after everything had been made ready for the cut-over, a tre-



MAIN BUILDING, CLEVELAND TELEPHONE COMPANY

have appointed representatives called "The Committee of One Hundred Organizations" and a very intensive campaign has been inaugurated and is being carried out to endeavor to put through a three million dollar bond issue for street improvement at the coming election.

Coöperating actively in this work is the Cleveland Telephone Company. General Manager Allard Smith and Commercial Superintendent R. G. Pate have arranged to send a notice regarding the bond issue to each telephone subscriber with the November 1st bills. The company has also placed upon all of its vehicles a large banner with the slogan "Let's Fix the Streets—Vote for the Bond Issue." It will further coöperate in the Street Improvement Campaign by showing lantern slides of the

mendous snow storm set in, and when the skies finally cleared, more than half of the telephone wires had been blown down, and the work had all to be done over again.

Storms always have been, and are to-day, the particular bugbear to the telephone, but with modern under-ground construction, they do not have the foreboding aspect they did in the earlier days when fifty-foot poles, with from ten to fifteen cross arms to a pole, carried the wires. In the history of the Cleveland company, the storm of the winter of 1899-1900 stands out as a memorable experience. Those were trying days for the telephone company, and old employes remember distinctly the day a fifty-five-foot pole with fifteen cross arms, fell to the ground, carrying with it four linemen who were making repairs. Fortunately none of the men were seriously injured.

But the troubles of the telephone man have by no means been confined to winter storms. Peter Yensen, third vice president of the Cleveland Telephone Company, recalls with a smile how the pole lines used to run along Euclid avenue, from one side of the street to the other, in a seeming helter-skelter fashion, in order to keep the sensitive telephone wires from coming in contact with the summer foliage of the trees that lined the thoroughfare. To-day the Cleveland Telephone Company has 156 miles of telephone subway within the city limits, and approximately 90 per cent. of all the company's wire and cable are under-ground, thus eliminating to a great extent the troubles to which open wires are necessarily subjected.

Humming and snapping noises on the telephone lines had their due share in the busy whirl of the telephone man's life of a few years ago. The advent of the metallic circuit solved the "humming" problem. The bonding of the rails in the tracks of the electric car lines did away with the snapping, which occurred when the car wheels passed from one rail to another. In the late Tom L. Johnson's early days in Cleveland, he had a little strip of track on On-

tario street and he took a personal interest in coöperating with the telephone company in the experiments that ultimately eliminated this difficulty.

An important period in the earlier days of the Cleveland Company was when the



CITY HALL, CLEVELAND

Midland Telephone Company, the then long-distance telephone company, ran its wires into Cleveland. It was the city's first experience with long-distance service and was called "Extra Territorial." The Midland Company subsequently became the Central Union Telephone Company.

Following the introduction of long-distance telephone service in Cleveland, the Telephone Company's business increased rapidly. One new central office followed

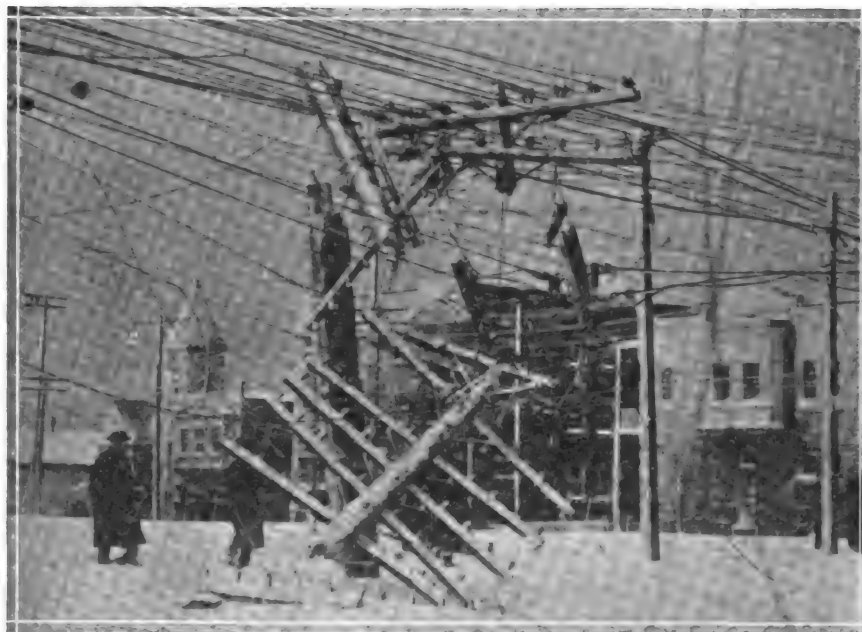
1907. Doan office first occupied rented quarters on Euclid avenue, near 105th street, but in October, 1900, was transferred to a building owned by the company and located on East 90th street, just north of Euclid Avenue. With the number of telephones steadily increasing, this building became inadequate, and Doan office was replaced by the new Garfield office on East 105th street.

Harvard and Edgewater offices were placed in service on the same day, December 30, 1900, and the territory west of the Cuyahoga river, which up to this time had been served entirely by West office, was divided among West, Harvard and Edgewater. Up to October, 1914, when the prefixes were changed, Harvard had been known as South, and Edgewater as Ridge offices.

The present Broadway office was also placed in service in 1900, but was known as Broad up to October, 1914. In February, 1902, a new office, located on East 19th street, was cut into service to relieve the Main office district. This was first known as North, but in June, 1914, was changed to Prospect.

Main office, of course, was the pioneer office, but the present switchboard equipment was placed in service March 2, 1912, and at the same time the entire building was remodeled and an addition was made to the east end of the building.

Following the installation of the Harvard and Edgewater offices in 1900, the telephone growth in Lakewood reached a point where it became necessary to establish an office in this suburb. The business of this office increased steadily until the building was outgrown and in December, 1912, its lines were transferred to a



STREET SCENE IN CLEVELAND AFTER SLEET STORM OF NOVEMBER, 1913.

another. The first branch exchanges established were West, East, Doan and Glenn. In the summer of 1915 the lines of West office, which had occupied rented quarters, were cut into Main, Edgewater and Harvard respectively. East office gave way to the present Rosedale office in June,

new building at Detroit and Marlo Avenues and known as Marlo office.

Nottingham office was established in rented quarters July 1, 1914, in the suburb of Nottingham to the east of Cleveland. The original installation was a No. 101 Western Electric switchboard; later, a

second section of the same type board was added. This original equipment was replaced by a multiple type relay switch-board with six "A" positions and three "B" positions, last September. The business has been extending to the east to such an extent that it became necessary last June to open the Lake Shore office, which is beyond Nottingham, in rented quarters and has a one-position board at present.

The latest addition to the Cleveland plant is the handsome Fairmount office, which will take care of the Heights district, and which is located on Cedar Road, near Lee Road. This new office, which it is planned to place in service on April 1, 1917, has a number of small refinements that distinguish it from other offices. The operating room is the lightest, largest and most airy in the city, due to the elimination of heavy columns in the center of the room. The engineers have avoided the use of columns by throwing the load of the building on the outer walls.

The building was planned to accommodate ultimately three full units. When extensions are made to the average building, the type of brick and other building materials are hard to match as styles in building material change. To avoid any inharmonious contrasts in the future, the ultimate front of the building is now complete and when additions are necessary, they will be made in the rear, where the general appearance will not be impaired by an imperfect matching of materials.

Fairmount is the only office in Cleveland about which the ground is terraced. This was done designedly and is not merely a whim of the landscape gardener. The building stands on a corner lot and at the junction of the two streets the grade is several feet lower than at the rear and side lot lines. To avoid the incongruous appearance of a building sliding down hill, it was necessary to resort to a terrace to give the structure its proper perspective.

Space in the building has been utilized to its maximum efficiency and even the usual waste space taken up by stair wells has been abolished. The stair railings are continuous and curve at the landings in such a manner that the upper rail is directly over the lower rail. Each drinking fountain has its individual compartment for ice and

these small coolers are replenished from the hallways, thus avoiding the intrusion of the ice man to the operators' quarters.

in place of the exposed switches, a number of push buttons similar to the ordinary wall switch of the home, have been substituted.

The boiler room of the building is four feet lower than the basement, which allows for an excellent arrangement of pipe distribution. There is also a direct outside entrance to this room, making it unnecessary to walk through the entire length of the building. The Fairmount office was planned and built under the supervision of the Cleveland engineering department.

Besides the new Fairmount office, the Cleveland Company has a number of other important building extensions under way at present. The demands

This system also insures a continuous supply of cold water where the old system of

on the Garfield office have far exceeded the calculations of the commercial engineers made two or three years ago. Since this office was opened two years ago, the territory which it serves has had a remarkable building boom. Where single houses once stood there are now new apartment buildings containing from ten to thirty suites, and where one telephone was needed formerly, twenty are required to-day. As a result of this increasing demand for service two more floors are to be added to the Garfield office, one to accommodate the proposed new Wade Park unit, and the other to furnish more commodious operators' quarters.

Rosedale, located in the "Heart of Cleveland," as the merchants term the district at Euclid avenue and East 55th street, has also experienced a rapid growth. The Western Electric Company has had night and day shifts working here for some time, and the installation being made fills the building to such

an extent that work on an additional story will soon be started to afford relief. The



EDDY OFFICE, CLEVELAND



PROSPECT OFFICE, CLEVELAND

having a cooler in the basement made it necessary to drain all of the warm water out of the pipes before the cold water would reach the user.

Even the electric light cabinets show the care and thoughtfulness given to all details. The ordinary electric light cabinet presents a formidable array of double knife-blade switches and numerous fuses. Not so at Fairmount; here the fuses are in a covered compartment by themselves and



HARVARD OFFICE, CLEVELAND



additional space will accommodate a new unit to be known as "Penn Square."

Construction work is now under way which will carry the Broadway, Edgewater, Marlo and Harvard office buildings back to their respective lot limits, and thus provide additional floor space for more switchboards.

Throughout the life of the Cleveland Telephone

Company, it has not only been a leader in making constructive improvements in its own business, but its officials have invariably been found in the forefront of important industrial and civic movements. From the days of W. J. McKinnie, the first president of the Cleveland Company, and long before it became a part of the Bell System, the company's presidents have been notably active in the affairs of the community and the nation.

W. J. McKinnie took office February 7, 1880; he was succeeded on July 6, 1883, by W. A. Ingham, who held office until February 17, 1886. J. W. Bennett followed him and served until his successor, Levi Sprague, was elected September 17, 1888. Then came Charles J. Glidden, elected June 14, 1900, and resigned November 11, 1901. The next president, Philip Dexter, served until April 10, 1902, and was succeeded by John I. Sabin who served until June 11, 1903. Mr. Sabin was succeeded by Frederick P. Fish. Mr. Fish resigned March 18, 1905. L. G. Richardson succeeded Mr. Fish and held office until May 2, 1911, when B. E. Sunny, the present incumbent, was elected.

The latest activity of the Cleveland Telephone Company, in a coöperative way, is a new and novel plan that has been formulated by General Manager Allard Smith in conjunction with the combined charitable organizations of the city, and the object of which is to have one big organization to do all the soliciting for all worthy charities. Under this plan, each contributor will make his donation in a lump sum, and the soliciting will be done by telephone.

Some years ago the prominent men of Cleveland got together and, under the stewardship of the Chamber of Commerce, sought to eliminate the large amount of soliciting by the various charitable institutions of the city, including the Associated Charities. The Cleveland Federation for Charity and Philanthropy was organized,

which combined practically all of the other charitable organizations in the city. The



MARLO OFFICE, CLEVELAND.

plan provides that donors may become members of the Federated Charities and by so doing, subscribe a certain amount each year, and be relieved from solicitation by the different institutions separately.

The chief difficulty which the Federation encountered in carrying out its plans was to reach a sufficient number of people in a personal way for the purpose of soliciting memberships. Various plans were tried, but all were found

to be ineffective or too costly. Then, through the coöperation of Mr. Smith, the telephone plan was hit upon. The week preceding Thanksgiving Day is to be known as "Thankgivers' Week." The telephone company will supply the Federation with cards run through its addressograph machines, giving the name, telephone number and street address of each subscriber to the company's service, and such a list covers practically all probable donors throughout the city. The cards will be sorted by the Federation so that they may be handled in the most expeditious and convenient manner. The Federation will select from its membership 200 men and women, who, in two or three sessions, under the direction of Traffic Superintendent Anderson, will be instructed in the proper way to use the telephone. The company will then set up in five of its largest exchanges special telephone equipment, and during "Thankgivers' Week" the 200 men and women

of the Federation will call up over these instruments every person in Cleveland who has a Bell telephone.

In addition to the assistance which the company will render this worthy cause, Mr. Smith feels that the plan will prove of inestimable value to the company by reason of the opportunity it affords to instruct personally so many people in the community who are large users of the telephone in the correct use of the service. The scheme is novel and the experiment will be watched with interest generally throughout the country.

But whatever the outcome of the plan, at least no better illustration could be had of the manner in which the Cleveland Telephone Company is coöperating with other civic interests for mutual good. It shows the spirit of the company, its officials and employes, and signalizes the important position the company occupies in this great city which has risen from General Cleaveland's village of log cabins.

In referring to General Cleaveland again, it has doubtless been noted



GARFIELD OFFICE, CLEVELAND

that the pioneer surveyor's name is spelled with an "a," while in the spelling of the name of the metropolis he founded, it is left out. There has been much speculation as to what became of that "a." The story which is credited as being the most plausible, and which is at least interesting, shows how little things affect large affairs. It runs thus: In getting out an issue of the "Cleveland Herald," in 1832, the letter "a" in the heading of the paper became so battered that it could not be used. It happened to be the only "a" of that particular font of type in the printing shop and the nearest supplier was in Buffalo.

The editor solved the problem by leaving the damaged letter out and it is said never to have found its way back into the heading.

### Development Study Tells Many Interesting Things

The Cleveland Telephone Company, with the assistance of the commercial experts of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, who direct these studies for cities throughout the United States in general, is about to complete a commercial study of the city of Cleveland and its surrounding territory, extending from Dover to Willoughby and from Lake Erie to Bedford and Berea, a total of 268 square miles in area.

This area has been selected as the probable boundary of the Cleveland Exchange for the year 1930. A field force of twenty-five men and an office force of twelve have been engaged upon this work for five months. Every portion of this area was actually visited by enumerators, the work having been sub-divided into forty sections, and, in turn, these divisions being further sub-divided into 300 small working sections or districts.

Some of the information gathered shows the approximate rental being paid by every family in the entire area, or the rental value of real estate owned, the kind of telephone service now had, the character of the business of each store, shop, manufacturing plant and commercial enterprise, and the trend of development, both as to business, residence and industrial sections. All vacant property within the area of this study has had its future use and occupancy forecasted through the period to the year 1930.

The reason for this study is that the engineers and executives of the telephone company may plan ahead and permanently invest during this interval, millions of dollars in buildings, switchboards and equipment, underground systems, cables, etc., in a way that



EDGEWATER OFFICE, CLEVELAND

the telephone plant will be developed in a comprehensive and efficient manner and the best service result obtained. This scientific commercial forecast of growth is absolutely necessary in order that the telephone company may engineer economically and provide a sufficient margin of facilities in advance to take care of its rapidly growing system. In order that this future forecast can be made, a very careful investigation is made of what has happened in the past twenty years as to growth trend, development and growth in population, residence and business areas, manufacturing and industrial centers, opening of streets and transportation lines, kind and class of telephones used, enlargement of the city boundaries by annexation, immigration and emigration, etc.

It is the practice of the Bell System to have these commercial studies made in all large cities at stated intervals of five or ten years apart, depending upon the growth of the particular city involved. A similar study was made for Cleveland six years ago, and while ordinarily no study would need be made until four years hence, the very rapid development of the telephone business here, which is a direct result of the great strides the city has made in its commercial and industrial development, has

made necessary a complete new commercial study at this time.

Those who have been engaged in this work have interviewed carefully hundreds of real estate men, business men, and others from whom information could be secured about Cleveland and its people. This information has been compared with performances as disclosed in the past in Cleveland and that which has taken place in other cities where these experts have made similar investigations. The combined judgment, therefore, represents a very reasonable, unprejudiced, commercial forecast of greater Cleveland.

Allard Smith, general manager of the Cleveland Telephone Company, who has had direct charge of this work, makes a statement that one idea which has impressed him throughout all of it, is, the desirability of Cleveland annexing to its municipal area the surrounding villages and towns as rapidly as possible. Those who hope and wish for "Greater Cleveland," if they were conversant with the progress of a study of this nature, could see so many indications of how the growth and development of Cleveland will be restricted and hampered unless it is "free to expand by annexation."

It is also interesting to note that the forecast of the telephone company gives a population of Cleveland as it stands to-day

without any annexation, for the year 1920, of 870,000 people. With the annexation of immediate adjacent territories which are now geographically a part of Cleveland and should be included in its municipal boundary, the 1920 estimate is 990,000 people, which approximates the one - million goal which has been the slogan

of the Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations.

In 1930, the population is estimated for Cleveland, as it should be at that time, including a certain amount of annexation, at 1,368,000 people.

These estimates are not colored by the desire of real estate boosters, but represent a careful judgment after an exhaustive investigation of what Cleveland should do in the way of a steady and continuous growth in population, together with a rea-



ROSEDALE OFFICE, CLEVELAND

sonable amount of annexation from time to time.

Included within Cleveland, the village of Lakewood, East Cleveland, Cleveland Heights and several other smaller adjacent suburbs, the population to-day is 845,202 people, represented by 190,332 families. Forty-six per cent. live in detached single-family houses, fifty-seven per cent. live in multi-family houses (including apartments); forty-three per cent. of all the families live in houses which are bringing less than \$15 per month, four and two-tenths per cent. live in houses costing more than \$50 per month.

This study has been made with a great deal of care by experts having wide experience and a statement of its results published recently in the Cleveland newspapers attracted considerable attention and comment.

### Oriental Indignation

A Chinese subscriber in an interior California city has apparently met with the common experience of annoyance caused by the unauthorized use of his telephone by others. He sends the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company the following notices:

NOTICE.

The phone number 2109 almost every day ladies borrow use for they self. We allowed city remited only.

But some cunning Women send line out the town. After March 1st if some Women Voice send phone out of the town We don't responsible for special information.

GEORGE TAI CO.

NOTICE.

The telephone Number 2109 allowed nor send line out this town with female Noise!  
Dated March 1st, 1916.

GEORGE TAI CO.

### A Movement Indorsed

"Charley, dear," said young Mrs. Torkins, "I hear that some of the politicians want to efface party lines."

"Yes?"

"Well, I just hope they do. Having your telephone ring every time a neighbor puts in a call is a perfect nuisance."—*Washington Star*.

## Learning the Value of the Metric System

From the *Scientific American*

Generations of effort by earnest advocates have not served to advance the cause of the metric system in the United

States. practical workers have insisted that in spite of the handicap of unfamiliarity it is, in a very short time, a simpler matter to apply the metric system to their work than to use the foot-and-inch system, with its unwieldy fractions.

The war is helping the cause of the metric system in other ways as well. It has shut off South America and other consumers of manufactured goods from their usual sources of supplies in Europe, and has awakened in American merchants the desire to supply these markets, not only temporarily, but permanently. Practically every one of these possible markets, however, is in a country using only the metric system, to the people of which price-lists in pounds and tons, yards and inches, dozens and grosses, are hopelessly confusing. Furthermore, many of the South American countries require that goods be marked in metric measures before they may pass the custom houses.

The result of this is that exporter after exporter has recognized the need of making use of the metric system, and has quietly begun turning out two classes of products if he fills both domestic and foreign orders—goods measured and marked in customary units, and others sized and marked metrically. As complicated as such a procedure might appear at first sight, it has proved distinctly profitable in practically all cases in which it has been tried, thus confuting the contention of opponents of the metric system that its introduction would prove expensive.

### Advantages of the Telephone

Evan B. Stotsenburg, attorney general, tells a story concerning the early days of the telephone in New Albany.

The character of the town, who operated an office in rooms just above the livery stable, was impressed with the benefits of the telephone and had one placed in his office.

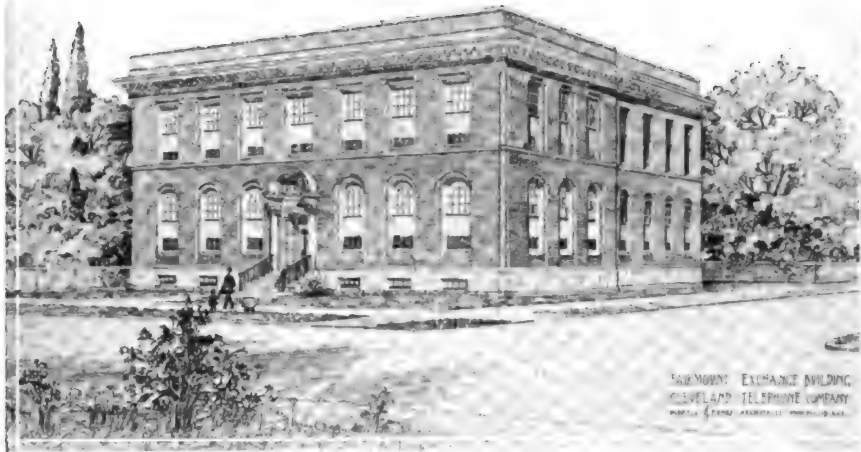
Meanwhile the new-fangled instrument also went into the livery stable. Then the town character sat down and waited for someone to take advantage of the new instrument. No one did.

One day the telephone bell in the livery stable, however, rang with all its might.

"Hello!" yelled the livery stable proprietor.

"Hello, yourself," answered the voice of the town character, upstairs.

"Just pass me the broom up through the front windows, will you?" said the voice.  
—*Indianapolis News*.



FAIRMOUNT OFFICE, CLEVELAND.

States and in some other countries as have the world-war conditions of the last two years. This has been brought out by a survey of factory methods that has recently been made by the Bureau of Standards of the Department of Commerce, and by supplemental information in regard to new activities that is coming each day to this practical government agency.

American factories that knew only inches and feet twenty-four months ago are turning out millions of ammunition shells, rifles, guns and other war materials for France, Italy and other metric countries entirely in metric dimensions. Scores of railway locomotives are being manufactured by American plants in meters and millimeters, and in entire factories and sections of factories not a single gauge, scale or other measuring device can be found bearing the complicated Anglo-American measures of length.

The orders in metric terms that are flowing into American factories are not alone for what might be termed primary war materials. In addition to locomotives, already mentioned, orders for rails, bridge members, machinery, tools and even fabrics and wearing apparel, are accompanied by metric specifications. Practically without exception, American manufacturers have adapted themselves to the new requirement.

The experience has been a revelation to many manufacturers, who considered the metric system complicated because they had had no experience with it. Many

## The Human Side

By W. F. JOHNSON  
Traffic Supervisor, Cleveland, Ohio

A girl who has breakfasted on doughnuts and pickles and who faces the day's work with wet shoes and stockings is not in a mood to follow the slogan, "The Voice with the Smile Wins." The Cleveland Telephone Company has provided against not only the above two conditions, but scores of others, and the operators, numbering over a thousand, are given the maximum encouragement in their efforts to serve the Cleveland public cheerfully and courteously.

In the first case, doughnuts and pickles are tabooed in the company's dining rooms during breakfast hours, and pure milk, fresh rolls and butter are substituted. In the second case, dry stockings and tennis slippers are furnished by the company free of charge, giving the matron an opportunity to dry the wet outfit. These are probably two of the smallest things that the company does for its employes, but they illustrate as thoroughly as the most pretentious of its welfare plans how the comfort and well-being of the employes are constantly kept in mind.

From the earliest history of the telephone, the girl at the switchboard has been carefully selected and trained and has been protected from overwork and unhealthful conditions. The operators are taken into consideration in practically every improvement made in operating equipment and apparatus. The chair she sits in at the switchboard is the result of careful, scientific study of her comfort, even to the point of determining just how high the footrest should be.

The questions of light, heat and abundant fresh air have been gone into thoroughly, and the telephone engineers have sought to make hygienic conditions in the exchanges as nearly ideal as possible. The establishment of rest rooms in the various offices is perhaps one of the most important accomplishments in the welfare work. Each rest room is furnished with comfortable chairs, couches and tables. A branch of the Cleveland Public Library is located in each office in connection with the rest room. This method of placing good books within the reach of the operators is of untold value. Operators come to the rest room before and after working hours and also during the rest periods, which occur every two hours during the time they are on duty.



MINNIE D. SPENCER  
Social Supervisor, Cleveland

The rest rooms are provided with either a piano or Victrola, and in some cases both. Magazines of interest to girls are also subscribed for by the company and placed in the rest rooms. Each office has its hospital room for girls who are suddenly taken ill, and simple remedies are provided to be administered by the matron.

Then, there are the social and medical supervisors. The social supervisor is the operators' confidant. Broadly speaking, she is the big sister to the operating force. There is the sick employe to be visited and cheered, the out-of-town girl to be placed in proper quarters, and many other details that require attention. The social supervisor's advice is sought by the girls in connection with all their parties, dances and other social affairs, and she is a guest at all their social gatherings.

In connection with the branch libraries, she must determine what class of books the girls like best, and in connection with the lunch rooms, what food should be

served. Where to spend vacations, how to raise the necessary vacation funds, how to improve spare time and a host of other problems, are met by the social supervisor.

The social supervisor also invites the employes to participate actively in both the Bible class, which meets once each week in the Main Office Building, and the Bell Club of the Mercantile League, which is affiliated with the Young Women's Christian Association. This club enables the employes to easily avail themselves of the splendid opportunities offered by the Young Women's Christian Association along physical and educational lines. The aim of the social supervisor is to keep each employe in as happy and contented a frame of mind as possible. This is not only to the personal advantage of the operators, but it also keeps them in the mental condition that enables them to give the best possible service at the switchboard.

Closely associated with the work of the social supervisor is that of the medical supervisor, whose duty it is to supervise the physical welfare of the operators. There are, of course, many concerns who have medical matrons who know what to administer for certain aches, pains and ills of humanity, but the real task of the medical supervisor is to instruct the employes how to take care of their health so that the ills will not occur.

Instructions are given through the medium of individual advice, and also by means of carefully arranged lectures. These talks to the girls are arranged systematically, first touching on the external care of the body, next on the actions of the internal organs, and lastly on such subjects as food, ventilation, exercise and other equally vital topics.

The physical condition of all new applicants is determined by the medical supervisor so that the health of the girls already in the service will be guarded from outside influences that might be brought in by new employes. The medical supervisor's relations with the physicians of the city is such that numbers of employes, without the necessary financial means, have received first-class attention when compelled to face some physical crisis. It is the aim of the medical supervisor to keep the entire operating force in the highest and best state of health.

There is almost as large an operating force listed on the pay rolls of Cleveland's business establishments as appears on the pay rolls of the Cleveland Telephone Company. With 900 private branch switchboards in service, each one requiring from



STUDENTS' RECREATION ON ROOF



one to eight or ten operators, it can readily be seen that this army of outside operators is an important factor in the matter of giving telephone service.

It is the earnest desire of the Cleveland Telephone Company to make this large force of outside operating employes feel that they are not outsiders, but they are part of the great organization that takes



EMMA ERNST

care of the daily telephone wants of Cleveland's 750,000 citizens. Here is a problem that requires tact, skill and diplomacy. How has the telephone company solved it? In the way of an answer to the question we will introduce, right here, Emma Ernst, Mrs. Maude Schaefer and Leslie Johnson, private branch exchange instructors, and we are going to add a title of our own coinage, "Ambassadors Extraordinary," representing the Cleveland Telephone Company in many foreign marts.

If there is an inexperienced private branch operator to be instructed, if the manager of some concern desires some expert advice as to how his service can be improved, if there is an operator who thinks she knows operating from A to Z, while in reality she is causing considerable trouble, if any one of a score of other conditions arises at any one of these 900 telephone centers, one of these "diplomats" is dispatched to the scene and the defective cog in the great machine of service is set to running smoothly.

However, these young women, like the physician, do not wait to be called; they are continually visiting the private exchange operators all over the city, giving advice here, a word of encouragement there, nipping in the bud many conditions that would surely lead to trouble. Over 100 switchboards are visited in this manner each month and it is surprising to know some of the conditions that are found.

For instance, an operator at one place who had been recruited from the office force of the establishment because she had proved to be a good clerk, did not know that she could connect one station with another through her board. Imagine the inconvenience and delay resulting in that office until one of the Private Branch Exchange Instructors found the condition.

If coöperation between the telephone company's operating force and the private branch exchange operators is essential, it is just as essential to the service to have coöperation between the private branch exchange operators themselves. To bring about the desired results, the instructors invite groups of private branch exchange operators to noonday luncheons at Main office and these "get acquainted" meetings have resulted in much good. One meeting may include all the "Bank Operators," the next meeting the "Insurance Operators," and in this way the operators are given an opportunity of meeting personally the many girls whom they only knew "over the wire."

All of these services are rendered free of charge on the part of the telephone company and this is the most astonishing part to a good many subscribers. Possibly you have received the impression that the foregoing duties ought to keep these young women extremely busy, but in addition to the private branch work, time is found to visit the home of every new operating employe that enters our organization. This means anywhere from forty to sixty-five visits each month.



CLEVELAND OPERATORS ON TENNIS COURT ADJOINING OFFICE

Proper home conditions contribute so much toward the success of an operator that this feature cannot be ignored. An explanation to the parents of the requirements of the work is often sufficient to correct home conditions that would otherwise bring about failure in the work for the new employe. Through lack of knowledge of the city, employes who board



MRS. MAUDE SCHAEFER

sometimes choose undesirable locations. Then the social supervisor is called into consultation and a proper boarding place is secured.

Another important feature of the welfare work of the Cleveland Telephone Company is the Operators' School, where the girls are given instructions covering a period of several weeks, in the art of telephone operating. The routine school work is varied with gymnastic exercise, either on the roof of the building or with the classroom windows wide open. The school training course relieves the new employe of all nervous apprehension which she would undoubtedly experience if she started serving an exacting public without a thorough mastery of the switchboard.

To carry on all these different activities without pampering the employes or creating a feeling of paternalism, is the dominating idea back of all the welfare work.

In an organization employing so many young women, the bulk of the welfare work naturally pertains to the female

employés; but the male employés are by no means forgotten. Both share equally in many of the privileges. For example: both male and female employés enjoy the privileges of the very liberal "Benefit Plan" placed in effect by the Bell companies January, 1913. This "Plan" provides "Sickness-Disability Benefits" for the employés who have been in the service two years or more, "Accident-Disability Benefits" for those injured in the service, "Accident-Death Benefits" for those whose death is due to accidental injury in connection with the work, "Sickness-Death Benefits" for those who die in the service, and "Retirement on Pension."

The Safety-First movement has come in for a good share of the company's attention, and an educational campaign primarily for the male members of the force has been under way for some time.

Periodic accident prevention meetings have been held and the male employés have been addressed by state representatives of The Industrial Commission, the company's physician and other authorities on this important question. Prizes are offered for safety devices that can be used in connection with the daily work, bulletins are posted in conspicuous places admonishing Safety First and articles in the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS, all help to keep the movement before the attention of the force.

First-aid kits are carried on all of the company's line trucks and instructions in first aid are given to the men by competent instructors. As an associated company of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, the Cleveland Telephone Company has extended to all of its employés the privilege of becoming stockholders. The easy payment plan of two dollars a month for each share subscribed for, makes it possible for the office boy to become a shareholder as readily as an executive.

The proposition has been made more attractive by a

substantial reduction for employés of the cost of each share from the market price. The only requirement on the part of the employé is two years' continuous service with the company.

misfortune in their families. Requests for assistance are, of course, strictly confidential between the employé and the immediate superior.

The company encourages recreation among its employés, and for the operators, tennis courts, croquet courts and hand-ball courts are maintained. The company also supports a baseball team and provides prizes that are contested for by a bowling league composed of departmental teams. The annual picnic to some nearby resort is an event looked forward to with pleasure by the employés and their families, and during the winter season the annual banquet and entertainment serves to bring into closer relationship the officials and employés. The Cleveland Telephone Company Orchestra, composed of employés of the company, of both sexes, has added materially to the entertainment at the many social gatherings of the force.

What return can be entered in dollars and cents in the company's yearly report to justify these activities? If you can reduce to dollars and cents the appreciation, respect and loyalty engendered in the employés by this welfare work, and the direct reflection of these qualities in the employés' dealings with the public, you have the answer to the query, "Does It Pay?"

"The Voice with the Smile Wins" has become an actuality with the employés of the Cleveland Telephone Company rather than a mere, empty slogan, and one of the principal factors in bringing about this condition has been the welfare work conducted by the company and described in this article.

### Extremely Annoying

"Doesn't it give you a terrible feeling when you run over a man?" they asked him.

"Well, if he's a large man," replied the automobilist, "it does give one a pretty rough jolt." — *Ladies' Home Journal*.



CLASS IN OPERATORS' SCHOOL, CLEVELAND

Hundreds of employés have taken advantage of this opportunity which automatically places in their possession a fund which the average individual would never have the will power to accumulate in a bank.

The loan shark evil was dealt a death blow, so far as Bell employés are concerned, when in April of 1912 a fund was set aside, from which loans are made to employés to be repaid in small semi-monthly installments, without interest. This plan has been of untold benefit to employés who have found it necessary to secure assistance in case of illness, or other



PLANT MEN AT SAFETY-FIRST MEETING

### Suburban Inspection Trip

In the concluding part of the annual inspection of suburban exchanges, officials of the Chicago Telephone Company made a three-day trip on October 3rd, 4th and 5th, to the Evanston, Waukegan, Elgin and Woodstock districts. Exchanges in the Hammond, Harvey, Joliet, Aurora, Wheaton, Oak Park and LaGrange districts had been visited earlier in the year.

The October trip was exceptional in that it occurred during ideal weather, when country roads were at their best, and without an incident that impeded, or disarranged the original itinerary.

Present at the Evanston exchange for the first day's journey were the following:

W. R. Abbott, General Manager.

B. S. Garvey, General Auditor.

A. R. Bone, General Commercial Superintendent.

Frank Redmund, General Plant Superintendent.

W. R. McGovern, Chief Engineer.

O. J. Holbrook, Commercial Superintendent.

L. C. Jones, Plant Superintendent.

B. R. Cooper, Traffic Superintendent.

B. A. Pratt, Special Agent.

By cutting short his vacation and making a flying trip from a point in New York, General Traffic Superintendent S. J. Larned joined the party Tuesday night. J. S. Ford, newly appointed to the position of state engineer, joined the following day. District Managers H. B. Gates of Evanston, C. T. Ford of Waukegan, C. P. Corning of Oak Park, J. W. Schramm of Elgin, and J. H. Conrath of Woodstock, acted as escorts through the exchanges in their respective districts.

The itinerary for the trip was as follows:

First day—Evanston, Morton Grove, Glenview, Wilmette, Winnetka, Glencoe, Highland Park, Lake Forest, Waukegan, Zion City, Lake Villa, Grays Lake, Libertyville, Highland Park.

Second day—Moraine Hotel, Deerfield, Arlington Heights, Bensenville, Roselle, Bartlett, Elgin, Huntley, Union, Marengo, Elgin.

Third Day—Elgin, Dundee, Algonquin, Cary, Crystal Lake, Woodstock, McHenry, Wauconda, Lake Zurich, Barrington, Palatine, Chicago.

One of the most notable and significant features of the trip was the frequent exchange of greetings between members of the party and their acquaintances among the citizens and townspeople in the districts visited. Newspaper publishers and reporters were interested in the personnel of the party and rarely neglected to write extended articles for their papers. Charles L. Abbott, recently elected state's attorney of Kane county, was but one of the many who were welcomed as personal acquaintances.

In summarizing the autumn inspection

trip, General Manager W. R. Abbott said:

"Conditions in the north half of the Chicago Suburban field have never been better than at the present time. Demand for service has been exceptionally heavy for several months past, and the prospects for the future are very gratifying.

"Our inspection at the several exchanges demonstrated the fact that all departments of the company are working in thorough accord toward the one great object—good service. I found abundant proof that district and exchange organizations are deserving of the highest commendation.

"During our trip we frequently met and exchanged views with residents in the cities and villages through which we passed. Without exception their attitude toward the company and the staff of local employees was one of confidence and goodwill.

"Inestimable benefits were derived by officials who made this trip. A clear knowledge of the peculiar conditions that obtain in each exchange is of immeasurable value in the administration of company affairs.

"I consider this trip as one of the most productive and successful ever carried out by officials of this company."

### Delegates Summoned by Telephone

Every operator of the Central Union Telephone Company in Indiana, on duty Sunday night, October 15th, at a rural exchange utilized a part of her time to call farm subscribers and remind them of the Farmers' National Congress, which opened a four days' session at the Claypool Hotel the next Tuesday. The following message was conveyed by the girls:

"Don't forget that the Farmers' National Congress meets in Indianapolis on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week. The program is one of the most instructive that has ever been arranged for any body of men interested in farming.

This is the first time an organization seeking attendance at an annual convention has used the telephone for such a purpose. The arrangement was made by J. H. Biddle, chairman of the state general committee, Remington, and Frank J. Odell, chairman of the publicity committee of the national organization, and a representative of the telephone company, as well as a member of the Farmers' Congress executive board.

### Jewish Soldiers' Service on March

An account of Jewish religious services unique in the history of American Judaism, and showing how difficulties of observing the Jewish New Year by Hebrew soldiers on the march in Texas were overcome, was described at the Central Conference of American Rabbis in Chicago October 10th. The services, New Year's

eve and New Year's morning were conducted by Rabbi Isaac Landman at St. Elmo, a Texas hamlet where the Twelfth Division, on the march, camped in the open.

A ration wagon, drawn to the top of a hill, served as a synagogue. A pulpit was erected in the tail of the vehicle and over it an American flag was draped. The troops were to resume their march at 6 a. m., New Year's day. Of the services that morning Rabbi Landman wrote to the conference:

"I arrived at the ration wagon pulpit at five o'clock. Out of the darkness, and from all directions, men sprang up. Some of them were equipped for the march. These were from the Illinois and Wisconsin infantry. We sat around the wagon, our numbers being constantly augmented, waiting for the sun to rise. Soon the stars began to fade. A gleam of pink showed in the east. The barrels of a gun or two glittered in the first rays of daylight.

"Silently I climbed into the wagon and faced the rising sun. The men rose in their places to the clank of their arms and accoutrements and brought out their precious little prayer books. For my part, I choked with emotion. I could not begin to read."

Sam Vehon, an Illinois bugler, who had been taught the strains the night before, sounded the "Shofar," Rabbi Landman wrote. He described the thrill of the bugle notes and said: "Such devotion, such religious fervor, I may never hope to participate in again."

Rabbi Landman wrote that he expected to proceed into Mexico to hold services for Jewish soldiers on duty under Gen. Pershing.

Sam Vehon, the bugler named above, is a ledger clerk in the office of the division auditor of receipts, Chicago Telephone Company.

### A Strange Case

We occasionally hear of some person who has never ridden on a railroad train or has never seen a trolley car, or holds some other record, indicating that they have been isolated from the world's activities for many years. Now comes the man who has never used a telephone and wants to be convinced of its usefulness. Here is the letter he wrote to the contract department:

Gentlemen: Kindly advise me by letter what the subscription rate is for residence telephone service. Also give me full particulars about your service. For your information, I have not had any experience in the use of the telephone, and perhaps do not realize fully all the conveniences it affords. Therefore, I would ask you to write me as fully as you can, giving me full particulars.

I do not promise you to enter into any contract right now, but I will certainly consider it if you will kindly give attention to my request for information.

Trusting to hear from you, I am,  
Yours truly,

## When Johnny Comes Marching Home

From the land of horny pebas, of porcupines and snakes,  
Of yellow fever, pestilence and a thousand different aches;  
From the land where swarthy matadors and picadors as well,  
Throw the people into fits of joy with their Greaser yells;  
Where pretty señoritas dance to while the time away,  
And bull fighters throw the bull in their famous National play.  
From the land where they have presidents who live but a single day,  
Into cosmopolitan Chicago—the Windy City—burst  
The First Brigade of Illinois, including "The Dandy First."

—Arthur F. Tobin, Chicago.

While all of the returning soldiers did not break forth into song, as above, many of them felt like it. The majority of the Illinois troops which went to the Mexican border in June have been mustered out and the telephone members are back at their desks. The returning troops included the First, Second and Eighth Infantry regiments, the First Cavalry, the First Field Artillery, Company A, Engineers, and Field Hospital Corps No. 1. Those remaining at this writing are the Third, Fourth and Seventh Infantry, Signal Company A and Field Hospital Corps No. 2.

To replace the Illinois and other troops which have been relieved from duty, regiments from other states have been transferred from the training camps to the border. Included in this second installment are the boys from Wisconsin (except one battery and one troop of cavalry) and those from Michigan, Indiana and Ohio. Since the first call in June these troops have been drilling at state camps and are now on regular duty patrolling the Rio Grande. If the announced policy of the war department of rotating the troops from different states on border duty is carried out, and no occasion for strengthening the border force arises, the telephone men from Central Group territory will all be home in the course of a few months, their places being filled by guardsmen from other parts of the country.

The Illinois telephone boys at the front made good records and several have been promoted. They are glad to be home, but most of them consider that their field experience was exceedingly valuable. When they started away in June they were far from being seasoned soldiers; they came back brown, lean and



A LITTLE MORNING PRACTICE  
This is Private Joseph Wieleba of Michigan

fit, with the results of four months of intensive training showing plainly in the swing of their march and the clearness of their eyes.

None of the telephone men are any worse for their strenuous life in the semi-tropics with the exception of Fred Lippert of the First Illinois Cavalry and Virgil Code of the First Illinois Infantry. The accidental shooting of Sergeant Lippert was chronicled in the October BELL TELEPHONE NEWS. Code, who is a sergeant in Company E, First Infantry, is a member of the Main wire chief's force, Chicago. He became ill with pneumonia while the troops were in camp at Springfield prior to departure for the border last June. He was taken along, however, but spent the entire time of the regiment's stay in Texas in the hospital. He was slowly recovering at the time of this writing.

The Illinois brigade, consisting of the

First, Second and Seventh Infantry regiments, encamped at Leon Springs, near San Antonio, Texas, the headquarters of the United States Military Department of Texas. San Antonio was rendered famous in American history by the gallant defense of the Alamo, a Texan fort which had been a mission church. Here 150 Texans, fighting for the same rights for which the Americans fought during the revolution, entrenched themselves behind the wooden doors and for fourteen days held off a Mexican army of 4,000 under Santa Anna. When the fort was finally carried by storm, only seven of the defenders were alive. Six of these were murdered by the Mexicans, and the seventh escaped to tell the story. "Remember the Alamo" became the battle cry of the Americans who a few years later defeated Santa Anna and the Mexican nation, and added a new empire to the continental territory of the United States. The Alamo still stands, a picturesque ruin, yet not lacking in inspiration to the troops camped nearby.

Promotions in the army are made even as in business and the advantage of having worked and learned under able leadership was proven by the fact that in most cases of promotion, those honored were employes of some successful commercial institution. For example, in Company K, Third Battalion, Illinois Infantry, composed of eighty-one men and three officers, seven of the eighty-one men were employes of the Chicago Telephone Company. On August 22nd a number of promotions were made in order to comply with army regulations. After the promotions had been announced it was found that five out of the seven telephone men in the company were among those advanced. The list of promotions follows:

Private Dee M. French, relief and safety department, to first class private; Private Allen Whitman, accounting department, to first class private; Private Emil Neubauer, Oak Park switchboardman, to corporal; Corporal R. E. O'Dea, construction department, to sergeant; Cook A. W. Nilsson, relief and safety department, to sergeant.

The Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan men who have more recently reached the Rio Grande, have repeated many of the experiences of the soldiers who formed the first "trick." Letters received abound in humorous references to the horned toads and centipedes indigenous to the desert.



MICHIGAN BOYS ENJOYING SOME REAL WEATHER

A severe storm flooded Camp Cotton and many of the boys had to sleep in several inches of water.



### Telephone Reports Flight

Watched throughout his flight by observers posted by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and Associated Companies, Victor Carlstrom flew by aeroplane from Chicago to New York, starting on the morning of November 2nd, and reaching Gotham at 8:56 the following morning.

Carlstrom did not accomplish his purpose completely. He had hoped to fly without stopping from Chicago to New York and make the trip in ten hours or less. A leaking joint in a gasoline feed pipe made it necessary for him to descend at Erie, Pa., 480 miles east of Chicago. This distance was traveled in four hours, seventeen and one-half minutes, and this portion of the flight established a new American non-stop record. The world's non-stop record is held by a French military aviator, who flew from France across Germany and into Austrian Poland without alighting. Had Carlstrom completed his flight as hoped, this record would also have been broken.

Leaving Erie at 2:34 p. m., eastern time, Carlstrom landed at Hammondsport, N. Y., at 3:47. Here he decided to spend the night, as no hope remained of completing the flight before nightfall. At 6:35 in the morning of November 3rd he left Hammondsport and reached Governor's Island at 8:56, having completed this lap of his journey at an average of 137 miles an hour.

Carlstrom's flight was arranged by the *New York Times* as a demonstration of the possibility of carrying mail by aeroplane between important widely separated cities. Carlstrom carried several bags of regular first-class mail, most of it letters between public officials and those interested in the flight.

On account of the great public interest in the flight, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and Associated Companies arranged to supply bulletins announcing the aviator's progress from the moment he left the government aviation field at Chicago until he should alight at Governor's Island, his destination. The telephone company stationed two or more observers at each of 147 points. These points were scattered along a belt ten to twenty miles wide along the route laid out and the arrangement insured that Carlstrom would not be missed if he should fail to stick closely to the announced line of flight.

Carlstrom started at 6:09 and in less than one minute the news of the start had been received by telephone in the *Times* office in New York.

Five minutes after the start the first telephone observer reported that the machine had passed one and one-half miles north of Blue Island at an elevation of 2,000 feet. This was at 6:14. Three minutes

later Carlstrom sailed over Harvey. At 6:21 the aeroplane was seen to pass north of Hammond, Ind., and this was duly reported



"TUNING UP" CARLSTROM'S MACHINE BEFORE START FROM CHICAGO. THE INSERT SHOWS THE AVIATOR "CLOSE UP" JUST BEFORE HE ASCENDED.

—Photographs by International Film Service.

by the telephone observer. Gary was passed at 6:27, the machine sailing directly over the Chicago Telephone Company's building, at an elevation of about 3,000 feet. Still keeping up his terrific pace, Carlstrom passed Hobart at 6:31½; Chesterton at 6:38½, LaPorte at 6:44, North Liberty at 7:10, Millersburg at 7:31 and Kendallville at 7:35.

In less than two hours from his time of starting, the aviator had crossed the state of Indiana and entered Ohio, where he was first reported at Wauseon at 8:10. He passed Maumee at 8:22, Oak Harbor at 8:30, Port Clinton at 8:40, Sandusky at 8:50, Vermillion at 9:00 and Lorain at 9:10.

The air was hazy at Cleveland and the machine was not seen. Painesville was reached at 9:43, Geneva at 9:52 and Girard, Pa., at 11:11 (eastern time). At 11:27 Carlstrom reached Erie, Pa., where he descended. Later, resuming his flight he got as far as Hammondsport, N. Y.

While Carlstrom did not accomplish all that he had planned, he demonstrated that a non-stop flight from New York to Chicago is entirely feasible. The close watch kept on his progress and the intelligence of his movements spread by telephone were likewise not without significance. An enemy aviator, it was pointed out, would have a hard time reaching any of our principal cities without ample warning being given in advance.

### Once Robbery, Now Service

In ancient times trade was regarded as a fight between buyer and seller; to-day it is looked upon as a means of mutual service. To the mediaeval economist the business man was a licensed robber; to the modern economist he is a public benefactor. Five hundred years ago it was thought that a man could make money only by buying goods for less than they were worth or by selling them for more than they were worth; that each business transaction involved the temptation to cheat; and that if a man was successful in business it showed

that the temptation has been too much for him.

To-day we believe that money is made on a large scale by doing the public a service. If a man's goods command a high price we assume that he has met an actual need. If this price furnishes him a large margin of profit, we believe that he has so organized the labor under his control as to diminish not only his own expenses but the actual labor cost of producing the goods. So confident are we of the

substantial identity of interest between the business man and the community as a whole that we give our capitalists the freest chance to direct the productive forces of society to their own individual profit. Even the mistakes of private enterprise may prove a means of progress to society, since they show at comparatively small cost what is to be avoided in the future.—Arthur T. Hadley, President of Yale University.

### Western Electric's Record Year

While the other two members of the electrical "Big Three" (General Electric and Westinghouse) have been enjoying record prosperity, the Western Electric Company has not been sitting idly by.

The company's previous biggest year's gross was \$77,000,000. This year sales will be not far from \$100,000,000. This refers to actual shipment of goods to customers. The incoming orders booked will be very much greater than \$100,000,000.

While Western Electric has no war orders, it has felt the effect of the war by limitation of raw material supplies on the one hand and an abnormal demand for its products on the other.

Directors recognize the fact that present conditions are entirely abnormal. At the same time the pressure is here and cannot be entirely ignored. As a result directors have authorized plant additions which will call for the expenditure of over \$1,000,000.

## Public Utilities Commission Rulings

By A. R. BONE

General Commercial Superintendent, Chicago Telephone Company

### Commission Held to Have Jurisdiction to Authorize Changes in Rates Fixed by Franchise

State Public Utilities Commission of Illinois.

Held: "That the state in the exercise of its sovereign power can regulate the rates to be charged by public service corporations entrusted with a franchise, subject to the limitation that the rates must yield a fair return on the investment;

"That the power to regulate rates may be exercised either directly by the state legislative department or through public functionaries legally created by the state, whether such functionaries assume the form and name of commissions or commissioners, or of cities, towns or municipal corporations. In the latter case the commission or the municipality in exercising this power acts simply as the agent of the state;

"That the power of the legislature to regulate public utilities cannot be destroyed or limited because the regulation may, to some extent, affect the power to contract or even existing contracts. One whose rights are subject to state regulation cannot remove them from the power of the state by making a contract concerning it. All such contracts must be presumed to have been made subject to the continuing governmental power of the state to regulate and supervise all such agreements:

"That unless there has been an express delegation of the power to a municipality, the power to regulate rates remains vested in the state;

"That as the state of Illinois had never divested itself of the power to regulate the rates of telephone companies, the commission is not bound by any contract insofar as said contract attempts to establish the rates to be charged by telephone companies."

### Rate of Return

Idaho Public Utilities Commission.

Held: "That this commission will not be placed in a position of stifling ambition and effort in the development of public utility enterprises by adopting a fixed per centum as the rate of return which a utility shall be allowed on its investment. The rate of return will be determined in each individual case, giving due consideration to efficiency and economy in management, and thus afford a stimulus for the utility to increase its business, to reduce its operating expenses and thereby reduce the cost of the commodity to the consumer. If a public utility can by efficient management reduce the operating expenses below the ordinary amount, or if it can by the application of a broad and public-

spirited policy develop a community and thereby develop its business and increase its earnings, it is certainly entitled to share in the increased earnings directly resulting therefrom. It believes that the application of this policy will create an incentive to greater and more efficient effort on the part of the investor and that it will redound to the benefit of the community served as well as of the entire state. The commission finds that eight per cent. per annum is a reasonable rate of return on the investment now under consideration."

### The Judicial Recognition of Limitation of Use

The Lincoln County Court of Nebraska, in the case of Swancutt vs. Reynolds, decided that a telephone company's rule limiting the use of the telephone to the subscriber, his family, guests, and members of his household and his employees when engaged in his business, was reasonable.

### Imposition of Toll Charge Justified as Necessary to Regulate Inter-City Service

New York Public Service Commission.

Held: "That the imposition of a toll charge on messages between Johnstown and Gloversville was justified, for although the revenue derived therefrom was small, it served to regulate traffic between the two cities and to prevent the company from being unnecessarily burdened with business for which it was not properly remunerated and which would require increased capital expenditures without any additional return:

"That a readjustment of the rates in Johnstown and Gloversville was necessary in view of the disparity between the service which will be afforded the subscribers in each community with the toll rate for inter-city messages continued in effect."

### Regulated Monopoly Preferable to Competition

The Public Utilities Commission of Illinois, on June 6, 1916, in approving the purchase of the telephone property of the Chicago Tunnel Company by the Chicago Telephone Company, said, among other things, that the constitutional and statutory inhibitions against monopolies were designed to preserve to the public such benefits as would accrue from competition, but that under the public utilities law ample provision is made to more fully safeguard the interests of the public through a commission authorized to supervise, regulate and control public service corporations in

the matter of the reasonableness of their rates and the adequacy of their service, and to prevent discrimination in either rates or service. That formerly, without reasonable regulation and control, competition seemed to be the only method by which the public interests could be protected, but that with such comprehensive regulatory laws as are now in force, competition has lost its force as a corrective agency.

The commission says further, that while the consolidation of the two systems will result in the formation of a corporation of great magnitude with immense power, which might, in the absence of reasonable governmental supervision and control exercise an evil influence on the government or become oppressive to the public, these dangers cannot be regarded as a menace when the great power of the government to regulate and control public utilities is properly exercised to prevent wrong and injustice.

The telephone business, says the commission, is particularly and distinctly a public service of such a character that it requires local unification rather than competition. The operation of two systems in one locality necessarily fails in giving complete service, since the subscriber to either can only communicate with subscribers of the company of which he is a patron. Telephone service should be universal, not limited. Dual service restricts the use and increases the cost.

### Deposits for Security

J. B. Swoveland complained to the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania that the People's Natural Gas Company had refused to supply him with gas unless he made a deposit as security for the payment of his bills.

The commission held, on June 30, 1916, that the gas company was justified in requiring a deposit from consumers whose financial responsibility was not known to it and in waiving the requirement of such deposit from those who were known and whose credit was established.

### Comparison of Rates Not Controlling

Dr. W. A. McClanahan complained to the Public Utilities Commission of Illinois that the rates of the Tri-County Light & Power Company in Viola were unreasonable and discriminatory. He established the fact that said rates were greater than the rates for similar services rendered by the company in two or three neighboring

municipalities and based his claim of unfair charges in Viola entirely upon such comparison. The commission having found that the company's revenues as a whole were inadequate to furnish a reasonable return upon the fair value of its property plus a proper allowance for operating expenses and depreciation, and that Viola, in proportion to its population, was the least remunerative of the municipalities served, approved the rates in Viola, holding that the fact that the company charged lower rates in other municipalities where the population was much larger and the consumption of current greater had no bearing on the reasonableness of the rates in Viola.

### Lobby Service in Hotels

The Public Utilities Commission of Illinois, in *Hotel Sherman Company, et al., vs. Chicago Telephone Company*, held that the furnishing of telephone service to the public by means of switchboards and other equipment installed by a telephone company in the lobby of a hotel, but controlled and operated by the hotel, was objectionable on the ground that it divided the responsibility for the service. The commission states that divided responsibility is an evil that should be abolished, since when service is rendered entirely under the control of a telephone company, the company can be held responsible for the character and quality of the service, which is not the case where part of the operation and equipment is under the control of a person or corporation over which the commission has no jurisdiction. The commission further states that the practice of hotels of purchasing telephone service at wholesale rates and retailing it to the public at higher prices by means of such switchboards and other equipment in the hotel lobby, con-

stitutes an unlawful discrimination against other pay stations and that, therefore, such practice must be discontinued.

### Reduced Rates to Churches Illegal in Pennsylvania

The Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania recently decided that a contract between a public service company and a municipality, wherein it is provided that the churches in the municipality shall receive service at different rates than those set forth in the tariffs of the company is in violation of law and cannot be approved.

### Changes in Michigan Traffic Organization

Friends of J. W. Bradshaw, formerly of the Chicago traffic department, will be in-



J. W. BRADSHAW.

terested in the news of his promotion to an important position in the department of the chief engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company in New York. Mr. Bradshaw left Chicago about a year ago to become traffic superintendent of the Michigan State Telephone Company. He is succeeded in that position by M. B. Downing, formerly general traffic superintendent of the Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company.

Mr. Bradshaw is now connected with the office of M. K. Watson, of the staff of John G. Carty, chief engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. During his long period of service in Chicago and his short stay in Detroit, Mr. Bradshaw proved a popular and efficient executive. He came to Detroit from Chicago last April and leaves a host of friends who congratulate him on his fine promotion, but regret his early departure.

M. B. Downing, general traffic superintendent of the Southwestern Telegraph

and Telephone Company of St. Louis, before coming to Detroit, succeeds Mr. Bradshaw. He is a native of Dover, Maine, and a product of Fox Croft Academy. The University of Maine also claims him as a graduate of its engineering department.

Sixteen years ago Mr. Downing began his telephone career, entering the employ of the New York Telephone Company as a student. His preliminary training must have been of a high order, for within a year he was occupying the office of the assistant manager of the Madison Square exchange, New York. The passing of another year found him a full-fledged manager in charge of the Franklin exchange, New York City, and since then fate has carried him up the ladder of telephone fame quite rapidly. He came west three and one-half years ago to take the position at St. Louis as mentioned above.

Accompanying Mr. Downing in his transfer to Detroit is Randolph Eide, supervisor of traffic at St. Louis. He will occupy a similar position in the Michigan State. Mr. Eide was born at a little place in Illinois called Lee. He secured his early education in the Academy of the University of Illinois, later entering the university and graduating from the literary department. Like Mr. Downing, Mr. Eide is a product of the students' training course offered by the New York Telephone Company. He entered the employ of that company as a student in 1911 and has moved forward rapidly to his new position. He has been connected with the traffic department at St. Louis since 1913.

### As to Borrowing

The habit of borrowing small sums of money—anticipating pay day—is a pernicious practice and breaks many a friendship. It is no kindness to loan money to a professional borrower.—*The Philistine*.



M. B. DOWNING



RANDOLPH EIDE

## Bell Telephone Bowling League of Chicago

Team.	Won.	Lost.	Pct.	Avg.
Accounting	6	0	1.000	870-3
Plant Accounting	6	0	1.000	865
Supply	5	1	.834	899-1
Construction No. 1	5	1	.834	874-4
Traffic	5	1	.834	848-4
Commercial	4	2	.667	907-3
Lake View	4	2	.667	861-4
Garage	4	2	.667	826-2
Edgewater	3	3	.500	864-5
Assignment	2	4	.333	822-5
Long Lines	2	4	.333	806
Construction No. 2	1	5	.200	868-5
Equipment	1	5	.200	832-5
Clock	0	6	.000	742-3
West	0	6	.000	707
North	0	6	.000	686-1

With the season still young, many of the stalwarts of the Bell Telephone Bowling League of Chicago are already bowling in mid-season form and the records of last year already look shaky.

One might be justified in assuming, from the character of their daily occupation, that the members of the "Accounting" and "Plant Accounting" teams would be speculated anaemics, but the standing of teams shows the error of any such notion. Up to October 20th these teams of indoor workers were atop the heap with a clear record. However, it is still everybody's race and too early to do any doping.

## Inter-Department League Finals

The Inter-Department Baseball League of Chicago finished with the Construction Department well in the lead, that team having won thirteen games out of a schedule of fifteen to be played.

The Assignment and Suburban Departments finished a good second and third, respectively, and both were runners-up for the championship during the entire season, the Suburban being eliminated by the Construction Department in the last scheduled game by the effective pitching of Shindle and a timely clout by Christiansen.

The deciding game of the season was played between the Construction Department and Assignment Department on August 12th at Sears, Roebuck & Company's diamond at Homan and Arthington, the Construction Department winning by a rather loose score of 12 to 2. This game was won by bunching hits off Tobin in the second inning, after which time the Construction Department was never in danger, as the fielding of Mienke and Mahoney turned successive blows into easy outs.

The Construction Department lost the city championship to the South Construction team of the Plant League on September

23rd in one of the loosest games of the entire season. The Inter-Department champs underestimated the strength of the smaller league winners and each player of the Inter-Department team contributed his "hoots" in places where they did the most damage and the South Construction team romped off with the game.

The line-up presented by the Construction Department for the season of 1916 is looked upon as one of the most formidable ever gotten together by the Chicago Telephone Company and was feared by the other contestants more than any other team in the league; and after many battles they showed their superiority and proved to be the victors.

The team's success was not the success of an individual, but was won by the efforts and ability of all. The balance and team work were their greatest assets.

## Bowling League Active at Milwaukee

The Inter-Department Bowling League of the Wisconsin Telephone Company is making the pins tumble at Milwaukee these days. In fact a local newspaper artist was so impressed with their "pep" that he perpetrated a cartoon which depicts some of the most prominent characteristics of this cosmopolitan bunch. The cartoon appeared in the Milwaukee Journal, October 15th. The official standing of the team on that date was as follows:

Team.	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Repair Department	7	2	.777
Installing Department	6	3	.667
Plant Office	5	4	.555
Cable Department	3	6	.333
Cashiers	3	6	.333
Engineers	3	6	.333
Total			
Team high single game—Plant Office			959
Team three high games—Installing Dept.			2,625
Individual high single game—Skelton			244
Individual three high games—Ott			590

## Outlaw Bowling League

Bowling for the 1916-17 season is under way in the Outlaw Bowling League of Chicago, and all the members are showing great enthusiasm. This season is expected to be even better than the last, and with much higher averages. As a matter of fact,

at the present time, the competition between the players is very keen. The following live wires have been appointed as an entertainment committee: E. A. Judd, chairman; A. J. Covert and A. Seguin. This committee is expected to handle its part so that the interest of the members will keep up and many entertaining programs are provided. Everybody is welcome to pay a visit to the Palace Bowling Alley, 141 North Wabash avenue, where the teams will bowl every Tuesday evening at 6 p. m. Those who cannot play can root for the other fellow and show personal interest in the program the committee has gotten up.

The following table shows the standing of the teams on October 21st:

Team.	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Disturbers	12	3	.800
Wreckers	10	5	.750
Bandits	11	4	.733
Highbrows	9	6	.600
Highbinders	7	5	.583
Raiders	5	4	.555
Goats	5	4	.555
Lowbrows	7	8	.466
Destroyers	4	5	.444
Bullets	5	7	.416
Dodgers	6	9	.400
Goofs	6	9	.400
Repeaters	4	11	.266
Pirates	3	12	.200
High individual score, 1 game, L. M. Larson, Bandits			230
High individual average 3 games, A. M. McCaffrey, Wreckers			176-1
High team score, 1 game, Bandits			548
High team average, 3 games, Bandits			464-1

## Michigan State Telephone League TEAM STANDING, OCTOBER 26, 1916

Team.	Won.	Lost.	Pct.	Average.
Engineering	14	1	.933	796
Maintenance	10	5	.667	769
Commercial	8	7	.533	776
Construction	8	7	.533	729
Installation	7	8	.467	722
Accounting	6	9	.400	726
Plant	5	10	.333	742
Traffic	2	13	.133	687

## HIGH SCORES

Locke, 211; Stevens, 208; McCormick, 195; Walmsley, 196; Curtis, 207; Petithory, 190; Ellis, 222; MacFarlane, 246; Clarke, 206; Lindzay, 208; Slocum, 190; Vigar, 205; Wardell, 197.

Those who predicted a successful season for the Engineering team of the bowling league at Detroit were not long in anticipating a realization of their prophecies. Within less than a month after the season had started, the Engineers were at the top, and at the close of the games bowled the evening of October 25th, they had a pretty good hold on first place, having won fourteen out of fifteen games.

Commercial dropped to third place October 25th, following a rather poor showing during preceding games, which was not at all in keeping with the fine start made a month ago. The absence of Wardle and Hardy this season has considerably weakened the team and it will have to get some new blood into it to brace its standing.



CONSTRUCTION TEAM IN INTER-DEPARTMENT LEAGUE





# Safety First and Accident Prevention

Member National Safety Council  
Member American Museum of Safety



MANY ACCIDENTS ARE CAUSED BY  
FOOLING, HORSEPLAY AND DISTRACT-  
ING THE ATTENTION OF OTHERS

THANKSGIVING GREETINGS.  
HAS SAFETY FIRST PREVENTED  
YOU FROM BEING INJURED?

THE MORE YOU INSIST UPON CARE-  
FULNESS ON THE PART OF OTHERS, AS  
WELL AS EXERCISING IT YOURSELF,  
THE SAFER IT WILL BE FOR ALL

## Accident Prevention an Essential of Modern Industry

H. W. FORSTER,  
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Bureau

Excerpts from an address by Mr. Forster for the  
Brooklyn Committee of Public Safety.]

The greatest happiness and the greatest approbation come to those who serve their fellowmen. This has been the theme of great religious leaders in the past, and thousands of men and women in all ages have known it to be true from actual experience. Alexander and Napoleon, conquerors of nations, do not hold the same place in the hearts of mankind as do Pasteur and Lister, conquerors of disease and suffering. No man would hesitate in deciding the relative value to humanity of gunpowder and printing. The Caesars and their oppressions and Lincoln freeing the slaves make a contrast in point. The suppression of individual opinion in Russia, and life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness which the fathers wrote into our constitution represent extremes to illustrate this thought. Contrast might be piled on contrast to prove the statement that the finest thing in the world is to serve one's fellowmen.

While we have been progressing vigorously in combating disease, improving living conditions, and raising educational standards, we have, until quite recently overlooked a magnificent opportunity to serve mankind through the reduction in injuries and deaths in industry.

For decades, accidents productive of injury, and too oftentimes death, have marred the history of our factories and transportation lines. The railroad train, the trolley car, the automobile ambulance, printing shops, factories—all have been unfortunate in taking accident toll from the human family, which it is their mission to serve.

Always there have been men in our industrial and transportation fields who have

striven earnestly for safety to life. This has been particularly true in transportation, but the country as a whole did not seem to realize the magnitude of accident hazard, or to appreciate that it was largely unnecessary. Our American nation is known for its energetic methods of attacking a problem when it sees it, and as soon as the possibilities of Accident Prevention were realized results were assured. We have drawn on the knowledge of Europe, which has been at work on the problem of safety to life for two decades; we have put brain power and money into it, and we have been getting results.

Accident prevention is sweeping the land. From coast to coast and from gulf to lakes the slogan of "Safety First" rings out, and it is not only a slogan, but it is a statement of a condition that is more and more becoming true.

Take our greatest industrial, the United States Steel Corporation. Since 1906 safety work has prevented about nine thousand serious injuries and fatalities. A serious injury is one incapacitating a man for thirty-five days or over. Thousands of minor injuries have been prevented. The working conditions of over two hundred thousand men, in seven brief years, have been wonderfully improved. Think of the wives and children whose breadwinners have been spared to them. Think of the parents who do not have to depend upon charity to provide the simple wants of their old age because their sons have been killed. Unfortunately I am not in the confidence of the directors of the steel corporation, but I feel certain that when such reports as these are laid before them at their meetings, each man glows with the feeling that he has been a party to bringing about this condition. Incidentally, I understand, accident prevention expenditures have paid a return of about thirty per cent. per year in reduced accident costs—another and a very substantial cause for gratification that may materially contribute to the glow.

Large and small, our transportation and industrial concerns are reaping splendid human and financial returns upon the time and the money put into the safety first movement. At home and abroad I have talked accident prevention with hundreds of men who have undertaken it, and, in spite of the fact that much duplicated effort has resulted from incomplete knowledge of the best methods of procedure, I have never yet talked to a single concern that dropped its accident prevention work, once it had begun. Changes in attack and improvements in methods have been frequent, but the "cause goes marching on."

Accident prevention is important for the following reasons:

1. It is humane.
2. It preserves the energies of valuable and trained employes.
3. It pays returns on the investments in safety.
4. Liability insurance companies are giving credit for improved conditions.

Many people do not realize the positive loss that results when a trained employé is incapacitated for work. It is not only his own work that is likely to suffer, but that of others whose efforts are interrelated with his. In some industries the loss of a trained employé undoubtedly involves a financial cost from two to four times as great as the compensation paid him. Also each untrained man replacing an experienced one is a positive accident liability.

The archives are full of examples of successful Accident Prevention and of excellent returns upon the investment made.

A few examples occur to me. They are typical of hundreds which might be gathered together.

The Wisconsin Steel Company, some two years ago, after spending approximately \$50,000 in safeguarding its plant, and coupling this with an educational campaign, succeeded in reducing the number of men in its hospital from an average of twelve to an average of one.

The Eastman Kodak Company, after three years of work, secured a reduction of

approximately fifty per cent. in its accidents. It has laid particular stress upon the policy of encouraging its employes to design their own safeguards for the psychological effect upon them—a man will use something which he has designed himself.

Harrison Brothers, Incorporated, of Philadelphia, paint manufacturers for upwards of a hundred years, have reduced their accidents approximately seventy per cent. They have made particular effort to reduce as far as possible the hazard incidental to white lead manufacture. Recently they have introduced from abroad the Claque method of extracting lead from the systems of workmen through electrolytic means. Two or three times a week the workman is placed with his hands and feet in a salt solution, sixteen volts of current are applied, and a very decided removal of lead from the system is reported to result.

Accident prevention and efficiency usually work hand in hand. One of the great corporations of New York State was found to have its hand tools, consisting of chisels, chisel bars, drills, hammers, sledges, etc., in a decidedly defective condition. Most men recognize the hazard of a badly burred chisel bar head. Hundreds of eyes are lost in this country each year from pieces of steel from such heads flying into the eyes of workmen. The hazard of a split or loose sledge handle is obvious. The company in question admitted the poor conditions of its tools, but claimed that the problem of putting them in good repair and keeping them so was so great that it would not be feasible to undertake it. Within a few months after reaching this decision, two men lost their eyes by flying pieces of steel, and it became obvious that even expensive action to improve conditions would be warranted. To-day the conditions in that plant are practically perfect. A recent examination of about two thousand tools developed only four defective. A few tool dressers take care of all the work, the men have been trained to bring in their tools at the end of the day, the foremen carefully inspect the tools which are used, and the company reports that not only are the accidents being reduced, but material improvement in efficiency has resulted, quite sufficient in itself to pay for the cost of carrying out this system.

There are all degrees of accident prevention. Most concerns are willing to take

care of the most obvious defects, such as floor holes, projecting nails, bad housekeeping, and especially hazardous machinery. Some will build splendid machinery guards, the kind that do not interfere with operation and that last, and are willing to protect entire plants in this manner. Some will put in excellent toilet, wash, locker and lunch facilities, and install first-aid rooms, plant physicians, and nurses. For every concern, no matter how small or how

ical protection is resorted to without the education of employes. Coupled with continuous, vigorous educational work, seventy-five per cent. is frequently possible. When you attack the street accident problem, the solution lies almost entirely in education of pedestrians, passengers on cars, street railway employes, drivers of vehicles, bicycle riders; in fact, every one who rides and walks.

Let us consider for a few minutes the street car accident situation. In this country the records of many individual companies are very complete, but I do not believe that any compilation of the experience of many companies has been made. In Germany, where system and order predominate, the situation is quite different, for the Association of Street and Interurban Railways has the facts in tabulated and diagrammatic form.

The matters of particular interest are the following:

1, 65,000,000 passengers carried per passenger death.

2, 5,000,000 passengers carried per serious injury to passengers.

3, 650,000 passengers carried per slight injury to passengers.

On a car mile basis per death or injury, the figures are 2,000,000, 800,000 and 200,000.

Two times as many passengers are injured in the afternoon hours as in the

morning ones, and three times as many pedestrians.

Defective equipment is responsible for only five per cent. of the deaths, both to passengers and to pedestrians, and about twenty per cent. of the injuries are due to equipment not being in good condition.

It is fair to assume that some such ratios would be shown in this country; certainly we know that accidents are not caused to any appreciable extent by deficiencies in equipment, but that they are due to the human equation.

Accident prevention is not a field for doubting Thomases. Success is only to the men who believe in the principle, and are willing to get back of it and push.

### The Fifth Annual Safety Congress

At the Fifth Annual Safety Congress, held in Detroit, October 17th to 20th, inclusive, H. M. Webber, superintendent, relief and safety, Chicago Telephone Com-



FIRST AID TEAM, DETROIT

Left to right—J. Bowen, F. C. Horstman, captain; H. W. West, patient; G. E. Hazen, R. Kain. Seated—Dr. C. E. Bingman, field representative Red Cross Society.

large, and no matter how little or how much it may know and has done, there is still room for practical work, even if only through keeping everlastingly at its workmen along educational lines.

This brings me to the phase of accident prevention work in which your committee has wisely interested itself. A man can climb upon and fall over the safest of railings; he can electrocute himself on a fully protected switchboard; he can get chips into his eyes if he will not wear safety goggles; he can trip on his neighbor's icy coal hole cover or fall and injure himself seriously in his bathtub; he can neglect to look both ways before crossing the street and be injured; and the small boy can steal rides and fall under the wheels; in short, speaking generally, the human equation enters into Accident Prevention more than does mechanical protection.

In industrial plants, from twenty-five per cent. to fifty per cent. of all accidents, including, however, usually many of the most serious ones, can be prevented if mechan-

pany, was elected a director of the National Safety Council. This honor was conferred on Mr. Webber in recognition of his activities in the work of the organization.

During the congress a large number of sectional meetings were held, the meetings of the Public Utility Section proving to be particularly interesting.

At the close of the meeting, the report of the nominating committee was read, and their selection of officers for the coming year, including Fred M. Rosseland, safety inspector, Chicago Telephone Company, as secretary of the Public Utility Section was approved, the entire ticket being elected.

### Inter-State First Aid Contest at the Safety Congress

Among the First Aid Teams entered at the Detroit Congress was one of which telephone men attending the Congress were especially proud. It was composed of men from the Michigan State Telephone Company. The contests were held at the Detroit Light Guard Armory, where the telephone team appeared on two occasions. Although the men did not actually contest for the prizes, their work attracted immediate attention and very high compliments on the skill and efficiency shown.

The telephone team was composed of plant department men as follows: F. C. Horstman, captain; H. W. West, who took the part of the patient; J. Bower, G. E. Hazen and R. Kain. Clark Strohmmer and H. Jackson served as alternates. The coaching was done by Dr. Herbert S. Karr of Detroit and Dr. C. E. Bingman, field representative of the American Red Cross Society. They were actually drilled for three hours daily for three days only. Various problems were presented that might confront telephone men in the way of first aid work, the imaginary situations requiring the services of from one to five men. The most difficult problem considered was that of a man with a broken back and it was chosen for demonstration at the Armory by Major Patterson of the Medical Corps, U. S. A., without the knowledge of the team. How well the boys did their work is shown by the picture which was taken after the would-be patient had been bound to a board and so securely fastened to it that he could be turned upside down as easily as right side up. He resembled an Egyptian mummy as completely as a living man can, fettered only by bandages tied with the greatest possible haste.

The first aid team is to be heartily congratulated upon its work.

### A Good Soldier

We find that many telephone men carefully and intelligently obey orders given them in connection with their work, but when it comes to matters of safety, they are not so obedient. They seem to think that it is necessary to do what the fore-

man tells them to do in regard to their work in order to hold their jobs, but that aside from their work they are better able to take care of themselves than anyone else and that it is unnecessary for them to heed warnings from their fellow employes or to obey orders from the foreman in regard to dangerous situations. A good illustration of the foregoing occurred recently. A gang was removing old equipment from poles. One of the men was at work removing a guy anchor when the foreman told him to come away from where he was working at once, and another employe also warned him that it was dangerous to work there just at that time. However, he did not think it was necessary to move and sat on the ground and watched another employe up on a pole loosen a heavy cross-arm. The cross-arm dropped, struck a guy wire and bounded in his direction. Before he could get out of the way, the cross-arm struck his elbow and splintered the bones.

This accident was absolutely unnecessary and would have been avoided had the man obeyed the foreman's instructions, or, failing that, had he obeyed the warning given him by his fellow employes.

A good soldier obeys orders regardless of what his own judgment may be. He knows that if he does not he will be punished. Similarly, if we do not obey orders in regard to personal safety we will be punished by an accident, for even though we may escape a number of times, we will get caught sooner or later. Let us be good soldiers—under the SAFETY flag.

### Telephone Man at War Front

Frederick H. Postlethwaite, formerly of the commercial agents' division, Chicago Telephone Company, is now "somewhere in France" with the English army. Mr. Postlethwaite's return to the dangerous service of



F. H. POSTLETHWAITE

his country was mentioned in the September BELL TELEPHONE NEWS. He had been in the army and had accepted a position in telephone work while convalescing after suffering a wound from a flying bit of shrapnel.

When he felt that he was entirely recovered he returned voluntarily to enlist again and brave anew the risk of death at the British front.

In a letter written September 22nd to one of his friends in the Chicago commercial department he said:

"I hope you have not quite forgotten all about me. I am still alive and kicking, not having been pushed to the front yet.

You will be surprised when you hear I am in the Kite Balloon section of the Flying Corps and go up in captive balloons observing artillery fire, etc., very interesting and a safer job than trench work, also quite dry, which is a great advantage. I also have been up in the captive spherical balloons as you have to know how to handle them. I got up to 8,200 feet one day all by myself, but was rather glad to feel the firm ground beneath me again. I hope the commercial department are all flourishing—tell them I have not yet forgotten the old days and my efforts to make someone take another line on the strength of a dozen busies.

"My kind regards, please, to Mr. Peirce, Mr. Butt, Mr. Wohlford, the rest of the department and yourself."

### Two Questions

Not long since a man, eminently successful in business, was heard to say that he always endeavored to employ men who would work *with* him, and not merely *for* him.

At first blush the statement seemed rather inane and senseless. But a little thought develops the fact that this business man was speaking out of the wisdom that had directed a successful business career.

To work *with* a man undoubtedly implies a relation of contact or close association. It implies an alliance closer than the ordinary conception of the relationship of master and servant; it means harmony of thought and action; a common interest in the task in hand; coöperative and concerted effort. Working *for* a man implies a sort of formal understanding in respect to the giving and taking of orders and as regards the giving and acceptance of a stipulated remuneration.

Of course, there is a thought here for those who have positions of authority as well as for the subordinates. Working *with* the "boss" implies a mutuality of interest in which the "boss" is concerned quite as much as the subordinate. It is a sort of hand-in-hand, pull-together, team-work proposition. It is the ideal relationship that should exist between the employer and employe; between the department head and his subordinates. And it is the relationship that spells results.

Two questions: Am I working *for* or *with* the "boss?" Am I forcing my subordinates to merely work *for* me, or am I allowing them to work *with* me?—*Mountain States Monitor*.

### Not a Self-Starter

Traveling Man to Long Distance, Hamlet, N. C.: "Central, I've been trying to get you twenty minutes!"

Operator—"I'm sorry, we did not get your signal!"

Traveling Man—"It's not your fault, central; I forgot this Ford had to be cranked!"—*Southern Telephone News*.

## Of Interest to Our Girls

Conducted by Mrs. F. E. Dewhurst



DEAD TREE AT TOP OF THE WORLD  
BOULDER, COLO.



BLUE BIRD COTTAGE—A PICNIC AT BOULDER CANON.



A CHICAGO OPERATOR AT THE  
TOP OF THE WORLD  
BOULDER.

### Vacations—Past and Future

Vacation pictures seem a little untimely as Thanksgiving approaches. After this number of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS our pages will be no longer adorned with picnic scenes. But is it not a good idea as you recall the past summer's pleasures to begin to lay plans for future joy?

On this page we are showing some snapshots taken of one of the operators from the Chicago company who had a delightful trip to Boulder, Colorado, and enjoyed the hospitality of the Blue Bird Cottage which was founded by Mrs. Sherwood for a business girls' rest home. A glance at the pictures will show some of the picturesque features. It is probable that the operator who posed in the "Royal Arch" at the "top of the world" will never forget the wonders she saw and that work will be all the better because she has a back ground of horse-back rides and picnics and visions of mountains and glorious cañon which no prosaic workdays can ever efface.

And this trip which to many may seem an impossibility can be practicable if one begins to plan ahead. To save a little here and there, say by giving up a few movies or a few ice cream sundaes or some ephemeral satisfaction and to begin on a little vacation bank account would make it possible in the future to go to some of the wonderful places we read about. It is safe to say that when people have saved and denied themselves little luxuries so that they may take such journeys, they enjoy

them far more than those who have money enough to go without a thought.

So here's good-bye to summer and "all hail" to a future summer which busy days will bring before we know it.

### "Au Telephone"

In some wonderful pen sketches in an article by Maud Mortimer in the October *Atlantic*, appears the following pathetic story of the telephone boy of the trenches. Miss Mortimer is one of the little army of Americans who have gone to France to work in a field hospital about five miles from the trenches. The patients who are too badly wounded or too ill to be carried far are brought to these shacks which with their complete furnishings were presented to the French government by an American woman.

"He was a telephonist in the trenches and, they told me, the son of a country doctor. Twenty years old or so, with a thick crop of black hair worn rather long, and dark languid eyes. A beautiful boy and an only son—to the last so delicately careful of his person that the life of the rank and file could have been little less than a crucifixion to him.

"He came in with typhoid fever and appendicitis. They operated. Days passed and he grew worse. Those who looked on called to his father, to his uncle, way-worn men to whom he was all the world. They

came. Then a fistula developed and he lay there suffering, irritable, exacting and alien, while those two forlorn men hung with anxious faces over his bed,—No. 9 it was,—on which the fight with death was fought by doctors, nurses, and by those two, to whom he was all the world. Another and more terrible operation relieved the strain for a time and gave him back to them, gentle, thoughtful, and full of tales through which flashed the heroism, humor, and patience of the trenches.

"For six lagging weeks the sympathy and science of the hospital clung to the chance of saving him, of saving those three lives. But death held on hungrily to him. In his delirium he was back in the trenches again, the receiver in his hand, feverishly active as message after message reached him and had to be sent on.

"Suddenly his excitement grew. He was in the fury of bursting shells. 'The Germans are coming! They come! They come! *Sauvez vous, camarades! Les Boches sont là . . . Allô. No. 129? Yes, I'm still here. What was that? What! . . .*' The pause was strained with the agony of attention. Then the muscles relaxed into a creeping smile and the lips moved again: '*Ah, ça y est, maintenant, Le bon Dieu est à l'appareil.*'"

"The boy was dead."

"Ah, there he is now. The good God is at the instrument."



## Hallowe'en At Margaret Mackin Hall

By A GUEST

October thirty-first, Nineteen Hundred and Sixteen, Margaret Mackin Hall, less than three months of age, celebrated its first real holiday—"Hallowe'en"—with all the enthusiasm of an "old-timer."

The playroom, dining room and pergola were festooned with the regulation colors, yellow and black; suspended from the festooning were large black cats, swaying back and forth, charging the atmosphere with silent screeches.

Six o'clock, at the sound of the supper bell, some thirty-three girls, who were enjoying the log fire in the spacious living room, scampered through the hall to the pergola, which leads to the dining room, and landed, as it were, into exterior darkness.

As the group approached the rectangle of the pergola, they were met by two gruesome objects, which beckoned them from opposite corners; this was so unexpected, that there were screams and stumblings, each girl trying to escape the grip of the ghosts, and as they did so, large black cats, which were suspended from the ceiling, brushed their heads, causing a real "Hallowe'en sensation." The entrance to the dining room was finally reached—all eyes resting on the tables of the ghosts. The only lights were those peeping from pumpkin heads, which were distributed in all corners of the room.

The tables were arranged "star" shape, covered with white linen and runners of black bats and orange moons; at the center of the star and at each point, were large lighted pumpkins; at each plate was a place card on which was perched a small black cat and an original verse, appropriately fitted to the individual. The girls entered and simultaneously all lights were turned on, and expressions of surprise and delight as to the beauty of the setting, were uttered by every one; and so it was, thanks to the woman who is giving every waking thought for the comfort and happiness of our girls.

When all were seated, the reading of the place cards afforded great merriment, as did the serving of potatoes from a large dish, for with each helping, a mysterious something rolled from the spoon, indicating the future fate of the girl; the somethings were rings, thimbles, doll babies and money. When the real supper was about over, Miss Reuse, the superintendent, arose and said: "Girls, I am pleased to announce that you are the happy recipients of a five-pound box of the choicest candies—sent by General Manager Abbott—with his best wishes for a happy Hallowe'en." There was an outburst of applause, and three rousing cheers for General Manager Abbott.

The group then assembled in the laundry, where the old-time game of "Apple ducking" was thoroughly enjoyed. At the end of half an hour, the girls retired to their respective rooms, and shortly reappeared in the playroom in masks and costumes. They formed in couples for a grand march, and as each couple stepped forward they were labeled with a number and handed pencils and paper, which were to be used in a pantomime guessing contest, the girl guessing the greatest number of names to be awarded a prize. Miss Collins of the private branch department was the lucky girl, guessing twenty-eight of the thirty-three. Another contest was the greatest number of votes cast for the most popular costume, which was awarded the "Gold Dust Twins," who really looked as though they had been plucked from the Gold Dust signboard.

After the awarding of the prizes, the girls unmasked and spent the remainder of the evening dancing, pinning the tail on the donkey, carrying a peanut on a dinner knife a certain distance in a limited time, and other games, in keeping with the night.

This gay and happy evening was brought to a close about ten-thirty, by the shepherdess seating herself at the piano and playing the trumpet to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne." This caused the sheep to gather about her, they singing to the music; again, she played; this time the music suggesting "Good-Night, Ladies!" "Good-Night!"

## Operators Brave Death

Two brilliant chapters in the long and fascinating history of the heroism of the telephone operator were written last month by operators in Michigan. In both cases the dangerous work performed by the young women saved their home villages from total destruction by fire.

On October 17th at 2:30 a. m. the little city of Emmett, twenty miles west of Port Huron, Mich., was reported to be on fire. Through the brave efforts of the operator, thousands of dollars worth of property was saved. The Port Huron *Times-Herald* has the following to say in its issue of October 17th:

"Vera Reid, the eighteen-year old telephone operator who was on duty this morning when fire destroyed most of the business section of the village, is a heroine.



VERA REID

"With darting tongues of flame leaping at the window and a building on each side of the little structure which housed the exchange, afire, this woman sat at her switchboard for nearly an hour and called for help for the stricken

village. First she sounded the alarm to all those who have telephones in the village. Then she called surrounding towns and asked for aid and with the fire beating at the front door of the office, and almost exhausted she called farmers from the surrounding country.

"It was not until her brother James, who had been with her and helped her in spreading the alarm, insisted that she leave the building, would she give up her position at the board.

"She had just left the building and made her way to safety in the street when the interior of the exchange burst into flames.

"No, I was not frightened," said Miss Reid in telling of her experience. "I knew that we had to have help and I knew that I was in a better position to get it than anyone else. There was a lot of excitement around me, but I just kept plugging in."

"I did not realize the dangerous position I was in until I saw the flames fairly screaming at me at the window. When I got out on the street, I saw that it was a big fire."

Telephone operators at Mendon, a small town near Kalamazoo in the territory of the Southern Michigan Telephone Company, likewise faithfully clung to their posts of duty in the face of the gravest danger, wholly ignoring their own security, to summon help from near and far for the stricken village.

On the afternoon of October 4th fire broke out in a butcher shop of the town. The flames spread rapidly throughout the building and with almost lightning rapidity to the adjoining structures. Something went wrong with the steamer. The villagers saw themselves confronted with a serious fire and with no means of fighting the flames aside from the most primitive apparatus.

The flames leaped from store to store and within an incredibly short space of time, the business section of the town had been transformed into a roaring furnace. So thoroughly did the fire do its work, that within two hours twenty business places were reduced to a mass of ashes and smoking embers. It was the most destructive conflagration that has visited any Michigan town in many a year.

The telephone office lay directly in the path of the flames. The telephone alone could prove the salvation of the village and save it from utter ruin. Mrs. Ora Hillier, wife of the manager, and Winnie Locey were the operators in charge. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, they began to send out calls to neighboring towns for help. Kalamazoo, twenty miles away, was asked to hurry relief without delay. The flames continued their drive toward the exchange. The heat and smoke were penetrating the office and making life at the switchboard almost unbearable. Still the wires out of Mendon hummed their messages of distress. Vicksburg, Three Rivers, Colon and Sturgis were told of

the terrible catastrophe that had befallen the little town.

The flames were beginning to reach out for the telephone building itself. They licked the framework. They were seeking to gain a good hold on the roof. The windows began to crack as the heat became more intense. The fiery elements were beginning to assail the last trench of the villagers. As if in bold defiance and daring them to do their worst, Mrs. Hillyer and Miss Locey continued the fight against the rapidly increasing odds, sending out calls for help to other towns for miles around. Not until the very roof over their heads began to crackle and they saw themselves at the end of human resources and about to be engulfed in a sea of flame did they retreat to a place of safety.

Gathering up the records of the office as best they could in the dense smoke, they groped their way to a stairway in the rear of the building, descended, and fighting their way through the mass of burning buildings that surrounded them, finally arrived in the open, exhausted and almost suffocated.

The fire was not checked until apparatus arrived from Kalamazoo. Before it was finally brought within bounds, thirty-nine buildings had been destroyed and damage had been done totaling nearly a half million dollars. But for the heroic work of the telephone operators and their splendid devotion to duty, nothing but ashes and charred timbers would to-day mark the place where once stood the thriving little village of Mendon.

### Girls' Bowling Club

Twenty-five young ladies from the Chicago traffic office have been bowling at the bowling alleys at Bensinger's on Monday evenings. The first night, October 9th, was a great success and the average attendance, twenty-three out of twenty-five on succeeding Monday evenings proves that the club is popular. The scores also are proving that the "weaker sex" is possibly misnamed and quite as entitled to mention in the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS as the men's clubs. While not as yet ready to call them out for the championship game, they are getting ready rapidly, and with one young lady making an average of 121, 109 and 105 in three successive evenings, it may be well for the men to take notice.

### Operator Has Mice Pets

To the dismay of all tradition, a woman has made pets of some mice. The woman is Mrs. Caroline O'Brien, switchboard operator in the Board of Commerce Building at Detroit. The mice are hungry little fellows who discovered that the operator sometimes threw bits of her lunch in her wastebasket.

Instead of taking to the higher elevations, Mrs. O'Brien evinced interest and sympathy for the little scavengers and now almost daily shares her meals with them,



A PAIR OF HAPPY PIONEERS.  
The lady is Margaret Woods, traffic supervisor of the Michigan State Telephone Company at Detroit. The man is "Cousin Fred" Houser, the jovial secretary of the Pioneers' Convention Bureau. The picture was taken in Atlanta, Ga., during the convention of Telephone Pioneers of America the latter part of October.

the rodents scampering unmolested about the floor.

The mice are ready for lunch every day at the noon hour, coming through a hole made for a steam pipe, and while Mrs. O'Brien attends to the switchboard her pets munch crackers and bits of meat.

Mrs. O'Brien has become so attached to her unusual luncheon guests that she avers she will soon take them to her home and bring them up to be cleanly, companionable house pets with a highly developed sense of chivalry toward womankind, so sadly lacking elsewhere.

### Origin of Well-Known Terms

The origin of many expressions in daily use, particularly in telephone work, is not known to many. The question of their usefulness, however, is undoubted, and if they had to be replaced by more descriptive phrases, the language would lose in expressions which have more or less picturesque stories attached to them.

Who can think of a better expression than "O. K."? The letters are said to be the initials of the phonetic spelling of a London "coster" and mean "Orl Korrect." The man was in the habit of checking and examining his own goods and marked the boxes with the cryptic "O. K." The use of this expression as meaning correct, checked, and found right, and many similar meanings, is now universal.

Almost everybody in telephone work knows what a "peg count" is, but it is some time since a "peg" was used in the counting. Probably in a few years' time the expression will still be used, and still mean a count of calls, but only the older

people will remember a peg placed in a bank of jacks and moved forward a jack for each call counted. Although this method has been almost entirely superseded by the more modern electric and mechanical counters, the expression "peg" count is too "expressive" to lose.

Everybody, almost, has had occasion to order a "600 book" and probably wondered at the name. There are certainly not 600 pages in the book; in fact, one must specify the number of pages required. However, this book is used in preparing information records, and there was a time when the information telephone number was always 600. So the name "600 book" was born, and it has stuck, despite the fact that Information no longer answers if you call 600.

When you are walking in the country and climb over three or four wooden bars conveniently arranged as steps and called a stile, did you ever think that this supplied a name for strips arranged like a stile on a switchboard and called "stile strips"?

There are many other terms, the origin of which is interesting, some confined to telephone work, others generally used, but all at one time descriptive. Now methods have changed, but the names remain the same.—E. J. B. in *Pacific Telephone Magazine*.

### The Telephone Bell

She ran to bake his pancakes,  
And the 'phone bell rang.  
She rushed to start the coffee,  
And the 'phone bell rang.  
Breakfast—he went without it;  
"Good-bye," they had to shout it;  
She would have wept about it,  
But the 'phone bell rang.

She tried to dress the children,  
And the 'phone bell rang.  
She went to wash the dishes,  
And the 'phone bell rang.  
The parlor needed dusting,  
The chafing dish was rusting,  
And the silverware disgusting;  
But the 'phone bell rang.

The grocer stopped for orders,  
And the 'phone bell rang.  
A neighbor came for gossip,  
And the 'phone bell rang.  
She thought by being hasty  
She could make some biscuits tasty;  
Her hands with dough were pasty,  
And the 'phone bell rang.

All day the housework waited,  
While the 'phone bell rang.  
No time for rest or labor  
When the 'phone bell rang.  
At last he came to fold her  
In his arms; "Poor girl," he told her;  
For a second he consoled her,  
And the 'phone bell rang.

—*Newark News*.

## A Commercial Manager's Duties to the Public

By R. T. WHITE,  
Commercial Manager, Grand Rapids, Mich.

In this day and age when all public service corporations realize what their duties are towards the public and when their policy has been carefully and consistently placed before employes, there is really no good reason why a commercial manager should not be well thought of by the public he is pleased to serve. This last statement is made advisedly, for it should be a pleasure to serve the public; that is the purpose of the entire existence of a public service corporation, and when an employe serves 'pleasingly,' he has made a great stride in the right direction for himself and his employer.

The main object of a commercial manager's duties is to see to it that his employer is well thought of by the public. This can be accomplished to a great extent by his making himself well thought of in the community in which he lives. This emphasizes the motto which is framed in so many of our offices, "A Company Is Judged by the Attitude of Its Employes." It is our regret that every office is not supplied with this motto framed and placed in a conspicuous place so that every person who enters the office can easily read it.

The problem which now arises is how can we become well thought of. Easy? Yes, if the right methods are pursued.

Our company has certain defined rules and instructions carefully considered by experts before their adoption. Each manager should carefully study each of these so that he understands why they were made. Every rule has a perfectly good reason back of it, either for safeguarding the interests of the stockholders who are the owners of the business, or for the efficient administration of its affairs. What is so aggravating to the public and what hurts a corporation, is to hear one of its employes say, "That's our rule."

A pleasant attitude toward every one is essential, for some are already our patrons and the others are possible ones. A customer's good will is worth everything.

Firmness in carrying out the policies of the company is recognized both by the company and the public itself as a necessary part of a manager's duties, and the public will realize that no favoritism is being shown. A public service corporation must treat all people in like circumstances in like manner.

The public must receive justice, and the manager on the ground, is the one to see to it that his patrons receive fair treatment. On rare occasions exceptions may be made to a rule laid down by the company, when justice and fair treatment to-

ward the public demand it. This is the most important of the manager's duties and should receive his most careful and unbiased consideration.

A manager's acquaintance and friendship with the most influential citizens of the community mean the friendship of that community for his company, and it is generally true that if a manager can make the public his company's friend in one community he can do so in another, and that is the kind of managers that the company and the public are on the lookout for.

## Putting a Price on Experience

H. L. Grant, sales manager of the Western Electric Company at Chicago, was recently asked to speak at a luncheon of employes of members of the Chicago Association of Commerce.

"Talk on 'Getting Ahead,' they had suggested.

A man could talk a long while on that subject and do nothing but spin generalities. But Mr. Grant told his listeners specifically what he thought made a man valuable in to-day's business world.

"Anyone who has had experience in employing men," said he, "will tell you that a large percentage of applicants have records for dabbling in many kinds of work. Two years with an insurance company, a year with a mail order house, six months with a steel company and six more in a wholesale grocery—is frequently the sort of record submitted by a man who wants to enter the electrical business.

"One day you are told by applicants that the banking business no longer offers opportunities, the next day that a man cannot succeed in the hardware business without a pull, and the third day that the railroads hold the young man down.

"After interviewing applicants for a few months we discover the altogether amazing condition that every line of business in Chicago, great and small, is clogged with men at the top who block the way, is honeycombed with relatives, or in other manner is so conducted that the ambitious young man has no opportunity to get ahead.

"Now, what is the answer? In my brief business experience I have come to the conclusion that it does not make much difference what line of business you or I go into. All lines of business are hard. But the thing that does count in our advancement—granting that we have ability and certain other characteristics—the big variable that counts more than anything else, is our experience in our own particular business. Especially in these days of specialization in engineering, manufacturing, distributing, and in every line, it is doubly necessary that we select definitely the line of business we intend to follow and then dedicate ourselves to that business."—*Western Electric News.*

## Too Much Prosperity

"During my service with the Bell Telephone Company in various parts of the country," said F. D. Allen, who is in charge of a special campaign for new business which recently started at Terre Haute, Ind., "I have heard of many different reasons why certain individuals did not wish to subscribe for Bell service. However, we unearthed an 'alibi' just recently here in Terre Haute which I am quite sure is unique in the annals of the telephone industry and which, no doubt, is typical of the present business conditions. Here it is:

"Our new number clerk has received a number of local calls for a certain individual who is engaged in the coal business in Terre Haute. A record of these calls was arranged upon a card showing that every day a number of local calls were received for this coal merchant which could not be completed because he was not supplied with Bell service. One of our commercial agents explained this matter to the prospect and outlined to him in very convincing terms (we have the proof of the convincing terms) that a Bell telephone in his office would greatly increase his business. After quite a display of talent in outlining just how our service would increase this coal man's business the coal merchant replied to the effect that he *now had more business than he could handle*, had more orders for coal than he could take care of, and the installation of a Bell telephone would, no doubt, add to his present burden of too much business. He promised to subscribe for Bell service *as soon as his business fell off.*

"It is needless to say that we are racking our brains in an effort to develop an argument to prove that a Bell telephone will reduce business, but this seems hopeless."

## Robbers Disturb Operator

The crash of the door of a 900-pound safe against the floor of the telephone office above the postoffice at Pearl City, Ill., jarred the switchboard signals violently. The operator in listening heard a commanding voice say:

"Boys, we'd better beat it."

Robbers had attempted to dynamite the postoffice safe and the charge of explosive partly wrecked the building. The safe contained \$1 and a few stamps. The robbers escaped.

## Operators Good Wives

"It says here," said Mrs. Diggin, laying down the paper, "that telephone girls make very satisfactory wives."

"On the theory, I daresay," said Mr. Diggin, "that by the time they marry they have got all the violent conversation out of their systems and really yearn for rest and quiet."—*Puck.*

## Brief News Notes from the Field

### Items of Interest to Michigan Telephone Employees Gathered from All Parts of the Territory

Julius H. Moeller, Correspondent, Detroit.

#### Greeting and Farewell Party

To bid farewell to the departing and to welcome the new régime in the traffic department, twenty-two members of that branch of the company's business in Detroit gathered at the Cadillac hotel the evening of October 19th for a six o'clock dinner.

The affair was a complete surprise to Mr. Bradshaw; his successor, Mr. Downing; and to Mr. Eide. General Manager Welch invited these gentlemen to dine with him that evening at the Cadillac. At the appointed hour he met them at the hotel and escorted them to the Flemish room, where, much to their surprise, they beheld seated around the tables the traffic boys of the Michigan State, prepared to break bread with them.

When dinner had been served, H. B. Judy, traffic chief in the Main and Cherry offices, entered upon the rôle of toastmaster and started the proceedings of the evening. In a clever and very humorous way, he called upon the various speakers and proved to be a star performer when it comes to putting a lot of people in the proper frame of mind to enjoy an occasion of this nature.

Mr. Welch was the first speaker. In a few, well-chosen words, he expressed appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Bradshaw and regret at his departure for other fields. He then welcomed Mr. Downing and Mr. Eide to the ranks of the employés of the Michigan State, assuring them the same hearty coöperation that had been according to the preceding régime.

Speaking in a similar vein, L. J. Walley and E. C. Laskey expressed high regard for their departing chief, at the same time congratulating him on his advancement and assuring the incoming administration of the same loyal support they had given Mr. Bradshaw. In conclusion, Mr. Laskey turned to Mr. Bradshaw and presented to him a large, handsome mahogany humidor containing two boxes of choice cigars, the gift of the men employed in the traffic department.

Mr. Bradshaw was in a happy frame of mind, which was reflected in the words he chose for his response. He replied in kind to the good-natured jabs that had been thrust at him by some who had preceded him on the program, growing

serious at the end and saying all sorts of nice things about the boys who have been working with him since he came to Detroit.

Mr. Fairman, who is temporarily located in Detroit, stated that he was very sorry to see Mr. Bradshaw leave Detroit, because he would have to meet him again in New York. He managed to square himself in the course of his remarks, and it is safe to say that when they do meet in New York it will be as friends.

Mr. Downing, the new traffic superintendent, was the last speaker. He declared that he is a serious man, but nevertheless human, who realized that he had come to take a big job but was glad of it. He appealed for the support of all in the department, asking that each man be on the job, for it is results that he is seeking.

#### Girls Attend "Sunday" Services

Telephone operators who attended the Billy Sunday meeting Tuesday evening, October 10th, had the pleasure of listening to some very commendable words about the nature of their work. A special section of seats had been reserved for the operators and it is estimated that about 1,000 of the girls from the Detroit exchanges were in attendance.

Choirmaster Rodeheaver welcomed the girls in a way that made them feel he was their friend. He asked them to stand up so that everyone might see what the telephone girls looked like. They responded and the great audience of 10,000 people applauded vigorously.

Mr. Rodeheaver then proceeded to pay an eloquent tribute to the telephone operators. He said if everybody could stand behind the girls when they are at work and see how diligently they apply themselves to their tasks, all would agree that the girls are deserving of the highest commendation. If all knew of their difficulties, their perplexities, their responsibilities and how well they carry them all, the telephone users would be very much more patient than they sometimes are.

The Sunday meetings have left a deep impression upon many of the telephone operators. Some have attended the meetings regularly and it is not unusual to hear the strains of "Brighten the

Corner Where You Are," or some similar Sunday favorite as one walks past the retiring rooms. In some of the exchanges the girls have held noon-day meetings to coöperate in the Sunday campaign.

#### Changes Among Managers

A. W. Robb, manager at Kalamazoo since 1910, has been appointed district manager at Lansing, succeeding Benjamin R. Marsh, who has been given a fine promotion.

Mr. Robb gained his first telephone experience in Lansing about eight years ago as a solicitor, Mr. Marsh entering the employ of the company at the same place at the same time. Following his early experience at Lansing Mr. Robb worked in Ohio and later was manager at Hillsdale.

W. C. Benschoten, formerly manager at Flint, has taken the position left vacant by Mr. Robb at Kalamazoo. He has had considerable experience in the telephone business. His first connection was with the Central Union Company in Ohio and with the Cleveland Telephone Company. Later he entered the employ of the Michigan State and became manager at Manistee. Mr. Benschoten has again entered upon active telephone work following about a year's absence on account of ill health.

The organization at Lansing has been further changed by the transfer of John A. Holman, of Alma, to Lansing to take over the duties of manager, succeeding H. F. Allman, who has been transferred to Plymouth. Mr. Holman entered the employ of the company a year ago last May as a solicitor and about a year ago he took his first trial at the duties of a manager. He was at one time in the United States navy and holds an officer's commission in the volunteer army.

Albert Hall, formerly manager at Plymouth, has resigned to engage in farming near Rochester.

#### Detroit Operator Is Champion Life Saver

Joanna Lemon, an operator in the Main exchange, Detroit, was recently admitted to membership in the World's Life-saving Alliance, having successfully submitted to tests by which eligi-



GOOD-BYE TO MR. BRADSHAW AND GREETINGS TO MR. DOWNING



bility of prospective members is determined. The tests consist of swimming twenty yards in an ordinary outing suit; disrobing in deep water and swimming eighty yards; swimming down from surface and retrieving object in six feet of water; demonstrating head, under-arm, and side-stroke rescue methods; and demonstrating wrist, front-neck and back-strangle release. Miss Lemon's diploma further states that she has been instructed in resuscitation of the apparently drowned by the Schafer method and has demonstrated it.

Miss Lemon wears the emblem of the Alliance as evidence of her dexterity in the water.

### Detroit District

The Michigan State Telephone Company was represented at the Pioneers' convention at Atlanta, Ga., by W. J. Berry, Stella McGraw and Margaret Woods. Mrs. Berry accompanied Mr. Berry on the trip.

Miss Woods took her vacation the first two weeks in October. She sojourned in the rural haunts surrounding Detroit and returned to her duties primed for another year's work.

DeLos Short, a member of the clerical force in Mr. Heywood's office, concluded a successful career of one year with the company early in October, to accept a position with an automobile concern.

Lou Burt, of the commercial superintendent's office, accompanied by Mrs. Burt and his mother and sister, motored to New York the early part of October, in his Ford touring car. Despite the fact that he has driven the car 12,000 miles, he had no engine trouble whatever on the trip.

G. J. Jeffries, formerly chief clerk to Mr. Scott, manager of the eastern district, has taken a position in the office of the commercial superintendent.

Lillian Bernard of the Grand office was married October 10th at the home of her sister to A. Reinhardt. Her co-workers presented her with a beautiful cut-glass bowl.

On Friday evening, October 13th, the girls of the Cadillac office pleasantly surprised Mrs. Bullock, chief operator, and her predecessor, Miss Hoffman, with a theater party at the Temple. Mrs. Bullock and Miss Hoffman had been given passes for that evening's performance. They felt rather conspicuous sitting alone in the midst of a lot of empty seats that had been reserved for the Cadillac party and wondered why so many seats around them were empty when the rest of the theater was well filled. The mystery of the empty seats was solved a little later when they saw the girls of the Cadillac office filing in. At the conclusion of the performance, the entire party adjourned to the Cadillac office, where a most pleasing sight met their eyes as they entered the rooms used for training operators. Before them were spread tables laden with good things to eat prettily decorated with yellow and black streamers and great bouquets of roses and chrysanthemums. Dancing and games followed the repast. It was a most delightful occasion, say the girls who attended.

The girls in the Grand office started a pedro club the evening of October 11th. About seventy-five girls were present. The club will meet every two weeks. Keno and other games are provided for the girls who do not play pedro.

Irene Hayes, social secretary, took a much-needed vacation early in October. She spent one



JOANNA LEMON

week at Lexington, near Port Huron, and reports a delightful time. A part of the rest of the vacation was spent around her childhood haunts at Amherstburg.

The relief operators of the West office surprised Miss Horn, their supervisor, by holding a luncheon in her honor October 12th. It was in the nature of a farewell, as Miss Horn was to leave shortly to become evening chief operator at the Cedar office. The girls gave her a pretty ruby ring in evidence of their esteem and affection. The room was nicely decorated with Halloween novelties and little red, white and blue horns were distributed as favors. Following luncheon, games and dancing were the order of the day.

The girls at Hickory office celebrated its sixth birthday Tuesday, October 10th. Miss Chambers, who has been chief operator ever since the office was placed in commission, was accorded honors due "old Hickory" on the anniversary of its natal day. She was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and with a two-pound box of candy during the noon hour. Ice cream and cake were served.

After many unsuccessful attempts to spring a

surprise on Miss McElroy, supervisor at the Walnut office, the girls finally succeeded in catching her completely off her guard, Wednesday, October 11th. The girls were eager to give their departing supervisor a shower in honor of her marriage and made a would-be operators' meeting the ruse by which the guest of honor was led into the trap. Dancing and several novelty "stunts" provided considerable amusement. The girls presented Miss McElroy with a three-piece silver service.

The operators' swimming class staged an entertainment at the pool of the Detroit University School October 19th for a party of invited guests. The program of events was as follows: Obstacle race, twenty-five yard back, egg race, relay race, trick swimming, twenty-five yard dash, fancy diving, special swimming and diving. An interesting feature was a life-saving demonstration. Suitable prizes were given the victors in the various events. Several ladies from the D. A. C. who are rated state champions, gave an exhibition of fancy diving which was much enjoyed.

A. M. Roth, formerly chief clerk to Mr. Mason, Saginaw district manager, has been transferred to the office of the commercial superintendent at Detroit, taking a position as commercial agent. He began his telephone career at Monroe eight years ago.

The twelve matrons from the Detroit exchanges gathered at the North office the evening of October 18th in honor of Mrs. Mary Hutton, who had recently been transferred to the North from the Main and Cherry offices. A most delightful social time was enjoyed and in the course of the evening Mrs. Hutton was presented with a fine leather bag. Upon examination her surprise was still further increased to discover that the bag contained a bright, glistening \$10 goldpiece. Mrs. Hutton is beloved by all of the telephone girls for her fine, womanly qualities and genuine worth. She has been a mother to many a lonely girl and no one receives a greater welcome when she enters any of the exchanges than does Mrs. Hutton.

Miss Cornell has recently been in Harper Hospital, where she underwent an operation on her throat.

Ben C. Schmicking, commercial agent, has been acting in a clerical capacity in connection with the recent exhibition given by the National Safety First Council. This Council just completed the annual convention in the Hotel Statler.

The men of the Detroit commercial department attended two of the meetings in the Billy Sunday Tabernacle in a body.

Over thirty men, including the commercial, plant, traffic and engineering departments, have signified their intention of forming a cribbage club. A small fee will be charged and the process of elimination will determine the winner of the tournament. Suitable prizes will be awarded.

### Eastern District

Clara Hutzl, operator at Chelsea, has returned from an enjoyable vacation spent at home and at Detroit.

Norma Turnbull has resigned the position of operator at Chelsea to attend Ypsilanti Normal. Olive Nelson fills the position left vacant.

Frank Wolff has accepted the position of lineman at Chelsea.

Construction Foreman Maloney's men have been at work near Chelsea, stringing a new toll line from Detroit to Jackson.



SWIMMING CLASS OF DETROIT OPERATORS

Barbara B. Hiller, for five years stenographer in the Ann Arbor exchange, has resigned to accept a preferable position, which, besides meaning to her added responsibilities, also involves the changing of her name and the changing of her residence from Ann Arbor to Detroit. Miss Hiller's service with the telephone company was rewarded with something more satisfying even than her salary. The salary has been earned and perhaps spent, but the friendships that she accumulated during her five years of service include every employé of the exchange and is of that substantial nature that precludes its ever being spent. At least, that was the impression that was gained from the rousing "send-off" that was given her in the rest room of the exchange a day or two after she had received her final check and said her goodbyes. There was a banquet, a very heavy shower of linen and dancing was indulged in through the kindness of Grinnell Brothers, who very kindly loaned a Victrola. Mrs. Kelly, wife of the manager of the exchange, was among the invited guests.

Cupid has again been busy at Ypsilanti and this time his victim is a member of the plant department, Kenneth R. Wingrove, wire chief. On the afternoon of September 14th Mr. Wingrove stole quietly away and returned soon afterward all dressed up as if for some grand occasion. Suspicions were aroused, but not until the next morning, when he passed the cigars around and bashfully acknowledged that he was married, was curiosity satisfied. The bride, formerly Mary E. Lee, was an operator at Ypsilanti a few years ago. The young couple will reside at 305 North Hamilton street.

Offices of the manager of the Eastern District have been moved from the main office building in Detroit to room 306 Ford building. Eastern District folk will regret that Mr. Jeffries' smiling face will no longer greet them in the office, as he has been transferred to the office of the commercial superintendent.



B. R. MARSH.

Dick Jeremy, lineman at Milan, had an unusual experience a few weeks ago. He was called to inspect a cable box which was out of commission. Upon ascending the pole, he noticed that a number of bees seemed to be especially attracted to the box. Somewhat familiar with the habits of bees, he decided not to contest their right to the box without preparing to meet them in successful competition. He retreated for strategic reasons to arrange for a thorough investigation of the premises before attempting to dispose of the diffi-

culty. Ascending again, this time equipped with a blow-torch, he enveloped the cable box with fumes emitted by the instrument and found that his suspicions were correct, as a swarm of bees sought to effect an escape from their place of confinement. When all of the intruders had departed and Mr. Jeremy ventured to look into matters a little more closely, he was rewarded for all the trouble by finding about forty pounds of delicious honey.

The speed of the telephone was demonstrated when a resident of Sylvan Center, a village four miles west of Chelsea, had the sum of \$93 taken from his pocket by a band of gypsies, who were traveling through the village by auto. The man, after losing the money, called the Chelsea operator, who notified an officer, making the capture of the gypsies possible before they had passed Chelsea.

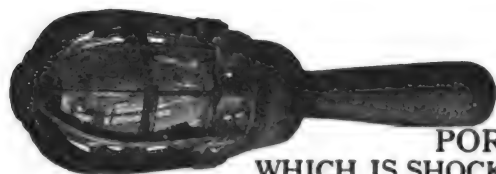
### Grand Rapids District

Cards have been received from R. C. Sackett, former traffic chief of Grand Rapids, announcing his marriage.

Amelia Palmer, for six years in the service of the Michigan State Telephone Company at Grand Rapids, has taken up the duties of a housewife.

The marriage of George Johnson, traffic chief of Grand Rapids, to Gale Williams of Lafayette, Ind., took place October 26th. Mr. Johnson has been diligently working at his new home in Grand Rapids, anticipating the pleasures of home. Miss Williams is a graduate of the domestic science course at Purdue. Mr. Johnson's friends consider him extremely fortunate in having won a young lady, well versed in the knowledge of the essential duty of a housewife—that of cooking. They also wonder if the old saying is true, "The way to a man's heart is through his stomach."

A certain plant inspector from the Detroit office, while making inspections of cable terminals at



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It is impossible to have short circuits, to blow fuses, or injure men or apparatus with a

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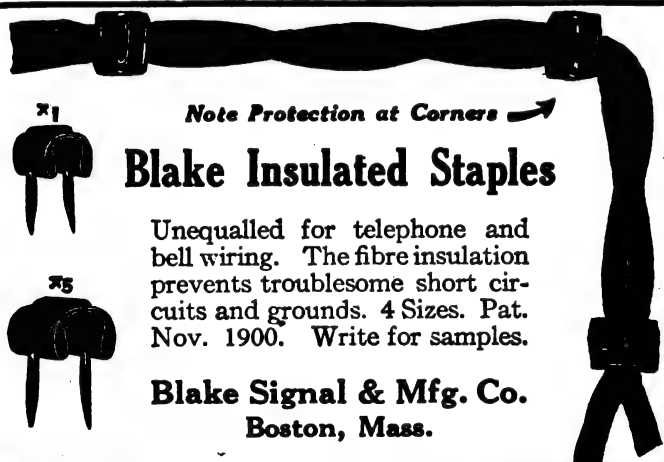
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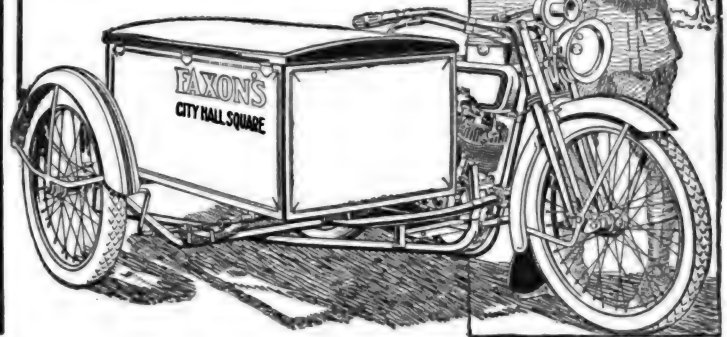
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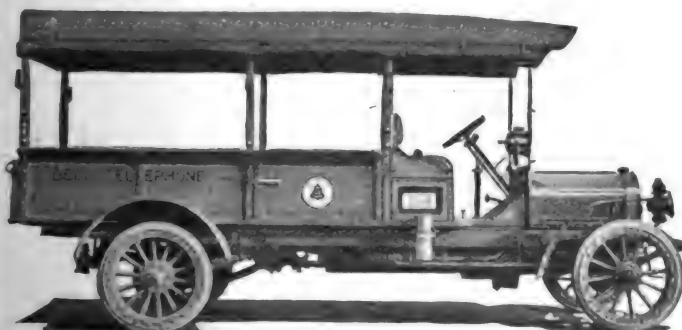
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## Executives and Phantoms

By L. R. MOFFITT

An executive is a character who can dispatch business with a definite "yes" or "no."

A phantom is an imaginary product of a feeble mind, and, like a falsehood, can be repeated a sufficient number of times to become, for all practical purposes, a reality. A phantom is a bogey.

It is absolutely necessary for the individual man to justify but one thing, and that is his existence. This can best be accomplished by sincere service to as many other individuals as come within his direct or indirect association. When a man endeavors to justify his errors in life, which are common to all of us, he is creating a phantom which in time will haunt his very life. Thus haunted, his mind is a slave to his errors, and as such, cannot profit by his mistakes, but instead, he will continue to make more and greater errors until the burden of bogies becomes unbearable and thus revert him to Nothingness from which he came. Such a man cannot be an executive.

No man is right all the time. Only he who has the moral courage to definitely direct and guide, to fearlessly say "Yes" or "No" and boldly state, "I am" or "I am not," with the full realization of the chances of error, is fit to be an executive.

## Service Observations

By A. J. SCHULZ

Manager, Green Bay, Wis.

To-day it is the task of every manager to bring his service to a certain standard established by our company, and this especially applies to the exchanges which now have service observing switchboards in use.

The first thing necessary to do to bring the service up to these standards is to see to it that all operators understand their work and that they are properly instructed and generally understand what the various items and intervals mean and how to govern their work accordingly. This necessitates a great many meetings with the operators. At these meetings all routine and operating points should be thoroughly discussed.

This method, to begin with, brings one in very close touch with those who are directly responsible for either good or bad service. The manager personally gets acquainted with each individual operator's qualifications and this puts him in a position to assist the backward ones, or make such changes as are necessary.

All managers should bear in mind that it is not alone the chief operator's job, but it is for both the manager and the chief operator to work together, and then with the

close cooperation of the supervisors success will follow.

On the local service, in addition to charts and blue prints that are supplied by the company and made up locally, I have added a weekly curve on the various items. This curve is extended each week in a different color so that each week's work can be plainly distinguished from the others'. This curve gives the operators, supervisors and all concerned, the exact standing for the exchange four times per month. When the operators and supervisors notice that any item is going up, it automatically starts a campaign on those particular items, and from my observation, the operators seem to understand the curves more easily than the daily tabulated sheet.

Form W-18, list of calls improperly repeated, is one which may seem insignificant, but in checking up operating irregularities I find it is a very important factor. In fact, it is a sort of a barometer on the service generally, for if the number of improper repetitions is high, the rest of the service also suffers accordingly. If proper work is done on this item continually and it is kept down the service generally will show an improvement.

On long-distance items on which we are campaigning, I also supply a curve for each item. This curve is extended daily so that all toll operators may see at a glance where the service stands at the time. To supply this curve, I use the wire chief's monthly trouble sheet, which is very well adapted to this purpose.

## Some Ante-Bellum Prices

Gus Bryant, an employé of the Avery and Comstock store, furnishes the *Courier-Herald* with a copy of prices brought by stock, sold at his grandfather, John T. Bell's public sale, one and one-half miles south of Ashley, Mo., October 10, 1848. It is interesting to note the sale prices and compare them with present prices.

For instance, a saddle blanket sold for \$10.00 and a steer for \$2.88.

Among other interesting items are the following: Robert Poor, one Carey plow, \$1.55; J. F. Nutt, a brace and two bits, \$2.30; Thomas Lakin, one mowing scythe, twenty cents; Robert Poor, one grain scythe, eighty cents; Jordan Motley, two hogsheads tobacco, \$2.45; one crib of corn at forty cents per barrel; L. C. McFarland, one bay bald horse, \$26; W. Carr, one heifer, \$4.87; W. K. Shepherd, one big red cow, \$8; William Carr, 17 kegs white lead, \$2; Elliott Lucky, 100 pounds of bacon, \$2.90; Dr. J. T. Bell, one negro boy, \$250; Lucilla McFarland, one eight-day clock, \$40.50; Sam King, one stack of hay, twenty-five cents; P. B. Bell, one field of corn, \$18.25; Basil Riggs, one stack of oats, \$16.25; L. M. Wells, one crib of corn, \$30.—*Weekly Courier-Herald*, Lincoln, Ill., October 26, 1916.

## The Spirit in Which We Work

By JEANNETTE O'RILEY

Assistant Chief Operator, A. T. & T. Co.

The spirit in which we work has much to do with our success and happiness. Everything depends on the attitude we take towards our work. If it is just routine, drudgery, each day we feel disappointed, oppressed; to-morrow holds no promise, it is just an endless treadmill. But if we start each day feeling we have a new game to play it will hold a new interest for us. Our work is much like a game, and it is fun, more fun to play the game than to work at it. Play it according to the rules. It is more fun to do our best, to do the thing well, than to do what we know is poor work.

Some of the old violin makers could hardly bear to part with the instruments upon which they worked the most, because they loved them. These men were conscious of doing fine work. It was fun. They enjoyed it. So it is with every piece of work done at our level best, it satisfies us most profoundly.

Just going through the routine each day because you are required to, is not enough. One must work with a willing spirit, and as Zona Gale puts it, "feel the joy of the job" to get the best out of each day's work.

## The Telephone in Hawaii

Although Hawaii does not have snow and sleet storms, as is common in parts of United States, the telephone companies on the islands experience considerable difficulty with the "Kona" or south winds, as they are commonly called. These winds last for several days at a time and create havoc with the telephone lines, the poles, wires and cross arms all yielding to them. These windstorms occur periodically about once in every five years and usually nearly a week is spent in repairing the telephone lines after such a storm has passed.

The sugar, pineapple and cattle industries are the principal lines of occupation on the islands and the telephone is largely used in communicating between the different plantations and the towns.

The automobile has its place in carrying on the company's activities. Two Ford runabouts, one Mitchell truck and one Indian motorcycle are in constant use in shooting trouble, making repairs, and new construction work.—*Telephony*.

## Messenger Rewarded

A scholarship at Phillips Exeter Academy has been awarded to Allan Goodman, seventeen-year-old messenger in Philadelphia for the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania. The scholarship is awarded by the Exeter alumni, and Goodman was chosen because of his courtesy, diligence and ambition.



## WABASH 640

will put you in touch with personal and experienced insurance service for getting most reasonable rates and broadest protection for your property, household goods, automobile, baggage and jewelry against fire and theft.

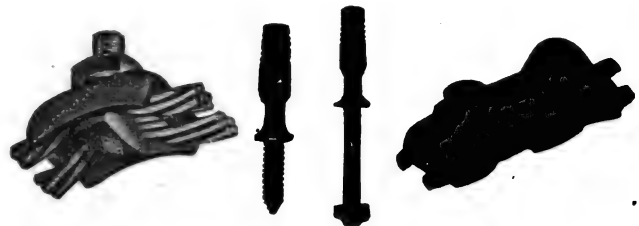
Get our advice—our firm is manager of the insurance department of the A. T. & T. Co.

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INSURANCE IN ALL ITS BRANCHES  
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Manufacturers of  
Pole Line Hardware  
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Manufacturing Company

New Britain,

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Pat. Aug. 19, 1913

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**BIERCE ANCHORS**

we claim that you are not getting maximum efficiency from the money expended for guying.

May we have the opportunity of convincing you?

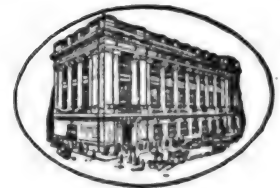
Best by test.  
Increased efficiency of guying.  
Easily installed.  
Results uniformly gratifying.  
Cost very low.  
Exceptional holding power.

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**The Specialty Device Company**  
Cincinnati, Ohio

## Discipline and Reward

**S**AVING money is discipline. But more than that, it is one of the greatest rewards of discipline. Few things which require as little sacrifice bring such definite gain.

If you have never tried it, see for yourself. Open a savings account in this bank. 3% interest paid on savings deposits.



# THE NORTHERN TRUST CO-BANK

N. W. COR. LA SALLE & MONROE STS.

Capital \$2,000,000

Surplus \$1,500,000

## Public Utilities Commission Rulings

### Advisability of Monopoly—Proper Regulation vs. Competition

1. The Public Utilities Commission of Arizona quite recently in dismissing an application for a certificate to construct a telephone line into occupied territory, said: "Betterment of service and reduction of rates cannot be reached under competitive conditions where regulation is properly enforced. Duplication of investments must necessarily result in higher rates to the public, and, in the case of telephone service, dual systems impose burdens upon the public in requiring the public desiring to reach all telephone subscribers to have to pay for the two telephones. Much can be said against, and little, if anything, in support of, dual telephone systems."

2. The Public Utilities Commission of Illinois voices the ruling of the Arizona commission when it says: "There has developed, in recent years, in connection with the passage of laws providing for the regulation and control of public utilities, the doctrine of regulation as opposed to competition; the old theory being, of course, that competition is the life of trade; and the new theory, that there is such a thing as a natural monopoly. And it is recognized that regulation and competition do not go together, because regulation means the establishing of standards and requiring all utilities to maintain such standards, while competition means the establishing of no standards except such as can be maintained under competitive conditions."

### Subscriber's O. K. Unnecessary on Long Distance Messages

The Supreme Court of Arkansas in a recently contested case sustained the following regulation:

A rule of a telephone company requiring each subscriber to pay for long distance messages originating from his telephone is reasonable and may be enforced regardless of whether the subscriber O. K.'s the message, where it was necessary to keep the company from being imposed upon and it was an easy matter for the subscriber to control the use of his telephone.

### Residence Telephone Used for Business Purposes

The Railroad Commission of South Dakota in the matter of Centerville Telephone Company vs. C. C. Sheppard decided, January 4, 1915, that the use of a telephone instrument is the criterion by which it should be classified, and that an instrument installed in the residence of a veterinary surgeon who maintains a veterinary hospital on the premises and has affixed to

his dwelling house a sign reading "Veterinary" and on the hospital at his place of residence a sign reading "Veterinary Hospital," should be classified as a business telephone and take a business rate.

### Refusal of Service

Decision of the New York Supreme Court October 6, 1916.

"The right of a telephone company or any public service corporation to discontinue its service is based upon a breach of that contract by the subscriber, and the law has long recognized the right of a public service corporation to breach its contract by a refusal to give service after the patron's failure to make payment when due."

### Measured Service Meter Installation Charge Paid by Subscriber

The Massachusetts Public Service Commission held that a telephone company was not required to equip at its own expense the telephones of measured service subscribers with meters or registers to record the number of calls, but was ordered to equip the telephone station of any subscriber making a request therefor with a suitable recording device which will immediately register every local message charged to his account, and to charge a sum not exceeding \$1.50 per year or any fraction of a year for installation and maintenance.

### Invading Telephone Ordered to Withdraw

The question of invasion by a telephone company of territory occupied and served by another telephone company came before the Illinois Public Utilities Commission in the form of a complaint by the Northern Illinois Telephone Company against the Farmers Telephone Company of Sandwich. "It appears from the record in this case that both companies have their principal place of business in Sandwich, and that the Northern Illinois Telephone Company, organized in 1898, has about 3,370 subscribers in and around Sandwich, while the defendant company organized in 1908, has about twenty-five subscribers.

Between the time of the filing of the complaint and the hearings held in this case the respondent constructed several miles of telephone lines in the rural district southeast of Sandwich and connected these lines with its then existing rural lines that enter Sandwich from the south. These new lines for the most part parallel the wires of the complainant and are located in territory which, prior to their construction, was occupied exclusively by the telephone system of the Complainant.

By constructing these lines the respondent

secured some fifteen subscribers to its system, who were theretofore subscribers to the telephone system of the complainant. In other words, the respondent without certificate of convenience and necessity from the commission invaded the territory of the Complainant and secured some of the former patrons of the Northern Illinois Telephone Company.

No complaint is made as to either the rates or service of the complainant in this case and the record shows that the service furnished by the Northern Illinois Telephone Company is equal, if not superior, to that of the respondent.

The respondent company contended that it had the right to build the new lines in question and that in so doing it has merely extended and added to its telephone system; therefore, that a certificate of convenience and necessity from the commission was not necessary.

As in the case of the Byron Telephone Company against the Rock River Telephone Company, the commission overruled this contention. The Farmers Telephone Company of Sandwich, therefore (as was the Rock River Telephone Company) is ordered to remove or otherwise dispose of the telephone lines and equipment with which it invaded the territory of the complainant.

### Connection with Delinquent Subscribers Refused

A. J. Crider complained to the Missouri Public Service Commission that T. F. Waters, who operated a telephone system in Marin County, Missouri, had, among other things, refused to connect his telephone with the station of a patron of the exchange whose service had been discontinued because of non-payment of rentals. The commission decided that since local exchange service is primarily a connection from one subscriber's station to another subscriber's station or from a public pay station to a subscriber's station, the telephone company, in furnishing such service, is not obligated to connect a calling patron with a person called for who is not at the time purchasing such local exchange service, and that defendant's refusal to make such connection for plaintiff was in accord with the requirements of the law and good telephone practice.

### Use of Profane and Obscene Language Justifies Discontinuance of Service

The South Dakota Railroad Commission held: "That the use of profane or obscene language over any telephone line within the State would justify the telephone company in discontinuing service until the matter could be investigated and otherwise satisfactorily adjusted."

## Western Electric TOOLS and LINE MATERIALS

will build a telephone line that stays built.

Everything that goes in the lineman's kit—everything that goes on the pole line—poles—cross-arms—brackets—braces—insulators—wire—is the best in the market.

Lines built with Western Electric material are best fitted to resist storms and time.

**Western Electric Company**  
INCORPORATED

Chicago Indianapolis  
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## The New "Thompson-Levering" Test Set

TYPE CI-2011. Price \$66.00

Special Features

1. Impossible to make wrong setting for any test.
2. Impossible to make an error in reading results.
3. Impossible to burn out rheostat to make it useless.
4. Shunt protection for the removable galvanometer.
5. Battery renewa obtainable in any supply house.
6. The instrument is of "Thompson-Levering" manufacture.

A set the telephone world has greatly needed and desired for years, but never available until now. Its low price is the result of special design, quantity production and approved manufacturing methods.

Made, sold and guaranteed by the Thompson-Levering Company who are the producers of the highest grade testing instruments which are standard with all of the largest public service corporations in the world.



THOMPSON-LEVERING CO.,

Philadelphia, Pa.

## Here's a Good Christmas Gift

It's something of  
practical value all  
the year 'round.



Genuine Harness Leather Tool Bag.  
Made in Six Sizes

Catalog No. 17, Just Issued, Describes It.

MATHIAS KLEIN & SONS, Canal Station 62, CHICAGO



## TELEPHONE CORDS, CORDAGE AND CABLES

We manufacture a complete line of  
Electrical Wires, Cords, Cordage and  
Cables for Manufacturers, Jobbers  
and Contractors. . . . .

**BELDEN MANUFACTURING CO.**  
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## QUALITY CORDS

"We Make 'Em"

For

## SWITCHBOARDS

and

## TELEPHONES

**Runzel-Lenz Electric Manufacturing Company**

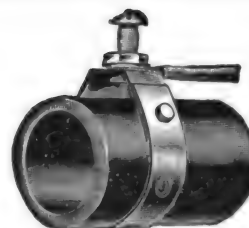
1751-53 No. Western Avenue, Chicago



## DURAND STEEL LOCKER COMPANY

Steel Lockers, Racks and  
Bins for every purpose.

Chicago • New York



No. A1 Clamp

## BLACKBURN GROUND CLAMPS

Approved by Underwriters.

Adopted as standard by the  
**BELL TELEPHONE COMPANIES**

Millions in Use

Why experiment with others when you can get a proven and dependable clamp for less money? It is made of copper and can be attached to any size of lead or iron pipe in less than one minute.

**BLACKBURN SPECIALTY CO.**  
3450 Perkins Avenue CLEVELAND, OHIO

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FROM THE  
**Stump**  
TO THE  
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Largest Stocks  
Finest Quality  
Promptest Shipments

Yards from Maine  
to Washington

**National Pole  
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When you want a Lock  
you want the best.

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MANUFACTURERS OF

**LOCKS**  
for all purposes.

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**SHOVELS  
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All Styles for Every Class of Work. Our High Grades Fully Warranted

**Telegraph Shovels and Spoons a Distinctive Specialty**  
WRITE FOR PRICES  
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**Receiver Cases and Transmitter  
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made from our composition give very  
satisfactory service under all conditions

We have concentrated all of our attention and experience to the perfection of our composition material, which is very appropriate and permanent for making telephone parts. This composition is "seamless,"—strong and highly finished and is not affected by climatic conditions. An interview or opportunity to discuss our proposition in detail to you will soon convince you that "ours" is an exceptional product.

**Siemon Hard Rubber Corp.**  
BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

**NATIONAL**

**Double Tube Copper Connectors**

are accurately made. They give less trouble and longer service than other types.



National Signifies Quality in Connectors.

**National Telephone Supply Company**  
3032 Superior Avenue CLEVELAND, OHIO

Trade  
**O. K.**  
Mark  
**CUTTERS**



**10-Inch** Clipper Cut Jaws, for 3-16-in. annealed bolts in the thread, or 3-16-in. soft rivets.  
**Center Cut Jaws**, for 3-16-in. soft rods.  
**14-Inch** Clipper Cut Jaws, for 1-4-in. annealed bolts in the thread, or 1-4-in. soft rivets.  
**Center Cut Jaws**, for 1-4-in. soft rods.

Insulated Handles if desired.

**H. K. PORTER, EVERETT MASS.**

"Easy," "New Easy" and Allen Randall Bolt Clippers

**TRADE MARK**  
**ELECTROSE**  
INSULATION  
"MADE IN AMERICA"

INSULATORS 1,000 TO 1,000,000 VOLTS  
LOUIS STEINBERGER'S PATENTS

60-72 Washington Street  
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BROOKLYN, N. Y.  
AMERICA  
ALSO FOR SALE BY  
**Western Electric Company Ltd.**  
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**BE PREPARED FOR  
THE WINTER'S RUSH**



No. 17 Qt. Torch, Patent'd  
most practical and do not cost any more than the others.  
Your jobber will supply at factory prices.  
Catalog Free on Request  
**OTTO BERNZ, Newark, N. J.**

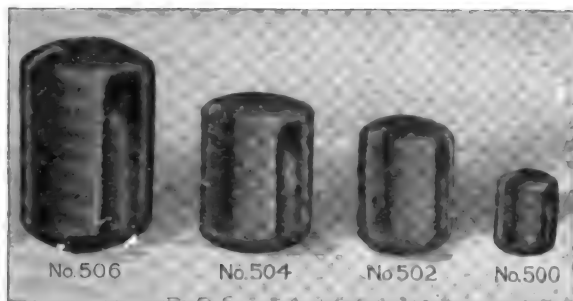
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**Bituminized  
Fiber Conduit**

provides a practical, permanent and economical underground protective receptacle for your telephone cables.

Write for literature

**AMERICAN  
CONDUIT COMPANY**  
East Chicago, Ind.  
140 Nassau St., New York





## Thomas Guy Strain Insulators

The severe service to which guy strain insulators are subjected requires the best. Thomas guy strain insulators have been giving satisfaction for many years.

Manufactured by

**The R. Thomas & Sons Co.**  
EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

Distributed by

**Western Electric Company**  
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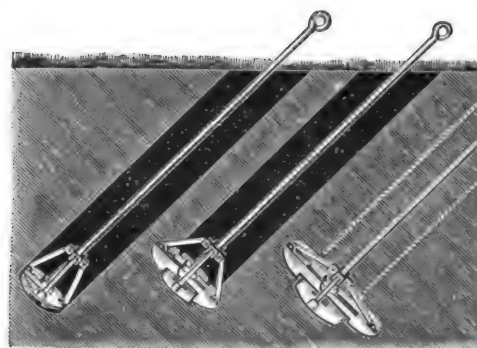
Offices in all principal cities.

## EVERSTICK ANCHORS

are used by every Bell Telephone Co. in the United States except one. We feel this one has made a mistake. Lighting Companies and Electric Railway Companies not using Everstick Anchors have also made a like mistake, for there is but one best Anchor.

## THE EVERSTICK ANCHOR CO.

ST. LOUIS, MO.



1 2 3

Fig. 1—Represents Anchor Placed at bottom of hole.  
Fig. 2—Partially Expanded. Fig. 3—Fully Expanded.

## TELEPHONE WIRE

We Guarantee  
Greatest Efficiency  
Longest Life  
Most Satisfactory Service  
Lowest Cost of Up-keep  
In the Use of our wire.



Write for **FREE SAMPLE**  
Make Test and Comparison

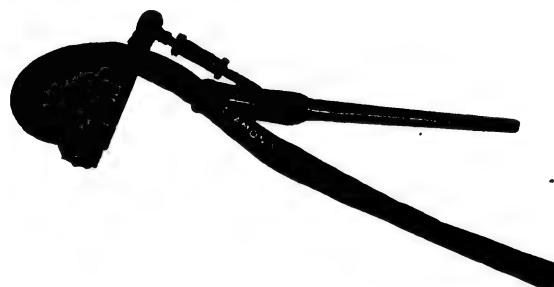


Approved by Leading Institutions of Technology and Telephonic Science. Handled by most representative Jobbers and Supply Houses.

**Indiana Steel & Wire Co.**  
Muncie, Indiana

## DIAMOND CRIMPER

For Securely Crimping Aerial Rings to Suspension Strands



### Enormous Power

Convenience in operation is one of the principal points considered in the design of this tool. Each tool furnished with three sets of case hardened jaws to suit different diameters of messenger strand.

## Diamond Expansion Bolt Company

Manufacturers of Diamond Specialties

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## Loyal to the Service

*They Uphold Each Other's Hands*

The public *must* be served. This is the dominating thought of the entire Bell organization from the president down. Every employe feels the sense of responsibility that this working principle implies. The public must be served—efficiently, uninterruptedly.

In the fulfilment of this policy, the management of the Bell System realizes that every individual employe must give undivided and undistracted effort and interest to his work.

To assure this, every worker receives adequate remuneration, ample protection in case of illness and provision for old age. All these personal matters are cared for so that the employe has the least possible worry regarding

his own welfare. His whole-hearted attention can be devoted to serving the public.

While each employe realizes that he is but a single factor, he understands that not only is supreme personal effort expected of him, but also a loyal support to every other telephone worker.

There is something in the telephone organization which imbues every employe with a spirit of loyalty to the public. All feel a direct responsibility for each other because each recognizes that only by mutual endeavor can they render the high standard of service which is expected of them. They uphold each other's hands so that the public may be served.



AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY  
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

*One Policy*

*One System*

*Universal Service*

TELEPHONE G  
NOW WORK U  
IDEAL COND

SHelter  
YOUNG WOMEN  
THEIR OWN L

WELFARE WORK STAFF  
FOR BENEFIT OF

Service and General W  
of Operators.

In the early days of his life, he was brought up in a poor family. His father was a laborer and his mother was a housewife. He had to work hard from a young age to help support the family.

The two apartments  
are to the girl operator,  
arrangements in the morning

At the complicated of the modern telephone

from designed for the re-  
construction of the old op-  
erational equipment had  
been in use for a long  
time. The equipment was  
used for a long time for  
recovery and maintenance  
made for a long time for  
to operate the specially de-

A special kind of equipment developed in the service of construction. Used in conjunction with the earthshaking equipment they bring into questions at night, but during the day, it is used to make the ground as nearly blind as possible.

As the use of the relay and the number of operators increased, additional wires were added by the Telegrams. An important step in the evolution of the relay system implies the restoration of the girl operators to full-time work on the telegraph.

...the ...  
...the ...  
...the ...  
...the ...  
...the ...

the other. Since our total N was small, we had great opportunity to compare. This factor became critical and supported by the success of the other country. It was one of the early days of the new, better, and stronger to build them. There is an

**Hospital for the S**  
By David J. ...  
... in a ...  
... the ...

A French shipyard in England was able to produce a ship in 100 days, but the American shipyard took 120 days to produce the same ship.

...their clothing to look  
an important feature—  
as the supervisor said  
warranted attention.  
...large crowd of people  
there would naturally  
be many...  
...and they

...are full of  
without without  
and and  
of of  
Work Appeals to

Telephone girls are not  
than any other class of w  
They never come in c  
with the public, so do g  
either occupations for  
the work appeal to man  
good homes, who woul  
an occupation where they  
carefully guarded.

As a result of all these  
telephone girls are altho

**GIRL RISKS L  
TO WARN C**

Heroism Displayed by Ri  
Typical of Ball Oper  
Country Ove

While national opera houses  
were still the subject of a

# Bell Telephones

AND CONNECTIONS

## In the Territory of the Central Group of Companies

DECEMBER 1, 1916

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Connected</u>	<u>Total</u>
ILLINOIS	639,873	282,545	922,418
OHIO	233,766	223,615	457,381
INDIANA	111,072	218,886	329,958
MICHIGAN	253,135	84,057	337,192
WISCONSIN	<u>168,430</u>	<u>146,520</u>	<u>314,950</u>
	1,406,276	955,623	2,361,899



# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

ONE POLICY

UNIVERSAL SERVICE

ONE SYSTEM

Volume 6

DETROIT, MICH., JANUARY, 1917

Number 6

## The Month in Michigan

News Notes and Personal Items of Interest

Julius H. Moeller, Correspondent, Detroit

### Christmas in Michigan

Christmas was celebrated with more than the usual holiday cheer in Detroit and throughout Michigan. The handsome gift of the organization to its employes, which gave the majority of them in Michigan a tidy little sum that was wholly unlooked for, heightened the spirit of the season which was already running high even before announcement was made of the company's generous consideration of its workers' needs.

Everybody around the telephone offices in Michigan was wearing his best smile this Christmas and on every hand were heard expressions of appreciation of the fine remembrance left by the Bell Company Santa Claus. Newspapers throughout the state carried the story and many who were in no way connected with the company set their brains to work to think up some plea which would make them participants in the distribution of the bonus. "I wish to call your attention to such as myself," wrote a certain individual from an up-state town. "I have your long-distance toll 'phone in my place of business now for about seven years at fifteen per cent. Don't you think I should receive a little of this good, free money? Please think of me when you distribute it."

Several hundred poor children in Detroit and others in the various towns in Michigan were made the happier on Christmas day because the spirit of the season reigned supreme among telephone company employes. Following their usual custom, the operators in Detroit were mindful of the needs of others less fortunate than themselves and brought Christmas joy into many a heart that would probably have experienced only an unsatisfied longing for the happiness of others but for the generosity of these Misses Santa Claus.

The girls in the Cadillac and Grand offices gladdened the hearts of 145 children and twenty mothers. As far back as last summer, when crowds flocked to the boats to escape the torrid heat of that season, the thoughts of these telephone operators were of Christmas and the poor. They gave a moonlight party that netted them

a sufficient sum to bring Christmas cheer into many an humble home. They gave to each of the 145 children and the twenty mothers two suits of underwear, two pairs of hose, a woolen cap, pair of mittens and toys. In addition, they supplied one family with a stove, distributed a half ton of coal to three families together with eight baskets filled with \$5 worth of good things to eat. Seven families received a bushel of potatoes apiece. The girls also dressed five dozen dolls, one and one-half dozen of which were furnished complete by the girls themselves and donated to the Harper hospital committee. The "good fellow" work at the Cadillac and Grand offices was done under the direction of Edna Poole, monitor at the Cadillac office. She was assisted in her investigation of worthy families and delivery of packages by Yetta Nelson, Marie Israel and Sula Howell. The Packard Motor Company donated the use of a big motor truck for delivery purposes and the girls take this means of expressing appreciation of the Packard company's assistance.

The girls at the Cedar office raised about \$34 by the sale of tags and thus obtained funds with which to fill baskets for eight families containing twenty-three children. The Cedar girls made deliveries Sunday afternoon. To each of four needy widows, they gave a five-dollar bill. The brother of Miss Maloney, an operator, kindly donated the use of his automobile for the distribution of gifts. Luella Valmont, assistant chief operator, was in charge of the "good fellow" work at the Cedar office. She was assisted by Jennie

Ryalls, Gertrude Schroeder and Marion Herzig. In the card selling competition which was held before Christmas for the purpose of raising funds, the following girls took high honors: Margaret Lyons, Dorothy Johnson, Florence Leavy, Minnie Walker, Esther Schoenbach, Mary Taluchmaik.

At the Ridge office contributions were made in food, clothing and money by the operators. This enabled the girls to fill baskets with Christmas goodies for ten families. Each basket contained meat for the Christmas dinner, fruit, groceries and clothing. Miss MacIlwain was in charge of the work here.

Some time ago the girls of the revenue accounting department organized a welfare committee of a dozen members. They look after the needs of their own force and those of as many others as means allow. They gathered together a great array of canned goods, groceries, vegetables, clothing and toys just before Christmas. In fact it looked as though good old St. Nick might have stopped there first and gotten no further, so great was both the quantity and variety of things distributed by this branch of the tribe of "good fellows." Each basket also contained an eight-pound roast and two pounds of butter. The girls found two families very much in need of assistance. In the one family were five children. The father was sick and had been unable to earn any money for weeks. In another, poverty was so extreme that the children had to be kept out of school for lack of clothing. The girls took it upon themselves to relieve this sad condition and arranged, besides giving these two families clothing and things to eat for Christmas, to supply them with milk and bread as long as funds are available. A poor widow with three children, who had been deprived of their bread-winner a few weeks ago, also came in for a share of the bounty of the girls of the revenue accounting department.

The seventy young women employed in the A. T. & T. toll room experienced great Christmas joy looking after the needs of several poor families. Gertrude Conway, M—

### Our Front Cover.

The front cover design of this issue of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS is a reproduction of a full page advertisement published in the special New Year's editions of the Chicago newspapers. In this advertisement the company executives and the publicity department, which prepared the copy, pay tribute to the splendid work of the operators during the past year and set a goal for this year's endeavors.

chief instructor, together with the Misses Wehner and Krause, asked for donations to a Christmas fund and also contributions of clothing and other necessities. The girls responded liberally and three families with twenty children were the happier Christmas day because of the kindness of the toll operators. The company gave the girls the use of a truck and assigned Mr. Heyden as driver. The girls appreciated the hearty manner in which he took up the work with them. They declared he made an ideal Santa Claus even if he was shorn of the customary long flowing white beard and the red uniform trimmed in white. Miss Conway, speaking for the girls, said it was the best Christmas they have ever had and she thought their work among the poor was responsible in a large measure.

The company took it upon itself to serve the Christmas dinner that Detroit operators might otherwise be deprived of because of absence from home. Cafés at the Main, Cadillac and Hemlock offices were used for serving the Christmas feast. About 250 girls accepted the invitation of the company and enjoyed as good a Christmas dinner as is needed to satisfy the appetite of the most exacting on such an occasion. A similar plan was followed for Thanksgiving with about an equal number participating. On each occasion the cafés were decorated in a manner appropriate to the season. Their very appearance and that of the retiring rooms too imparted the Christmas spirit and gave one a thrill of holiday cheer.

The Main café was the scene of considerable merriment. The girls had arranged a Christmas tree which had been attractively decorated. The piano was brought down from the retiring room and there was music in the air as long as the festivities continued. If any entered without having experienced the joyousness of the season, she must have become immune to the contagion of cheerfulness for it would seem impossible for one to live in the atmosphere of the café, surcharged with the spirit of Christmas, without having caught a little of the happiness that seemed to hold sway

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SANTA CLAUS PARTY OF DETROIT EMPLOYEES.

in every heart at the yuletide season.

Employees at Benton Harbor had a merry time enjoying Christmas festivities Friday evening, December 22d. The affair was so arranged that all might enjoy a portion of the fun at some time during the evening hours.

The halls were decorated in a manner suggestive of the season, the lights being covered with red, shedding a cheerful glow on the merrymakers. In the rest room a magnificent Christmas tree laden with decorations and gifts was a feature. There was a plentiful supply of candy for everybody, thanks to J. S. Morton and the St. Joseph Sanitarium Company.

In the exchange of gifts many lovely, also funny, offerings were received. After the distribution, the merry company had a grand march through the rooms and hall, bearing their water wagons, toy carts, drums, etc., in a grotesque array. Stella Lyle, chief operator, was presented with a handsome ivory toilet set by the operators. The Christmas party was one of the most enjoyable affairs ever held at Benton Harbor.

A letter of Christmas greetings and appreciation of the efficiency of the force was read from Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Wood

of Chicago. Mr. Wood is teacher of the Wesleyan undenominational Bible class of that city and his praise was a source of pleasure to the employees.

The annual Christmas party was given at the Kalamazoo exchange on Thursday evening, December 21st, in the commercial office.

The gifts were distributed by means of a "fish pond." All the

parcels were wrapped very prettily, tissue paper, baby ribbon and Christmas stickers being used. Each employé was given a number and when that number was called, went to the "fish pond," took the fish pole and waited for a "bite," and was compelled to open the present before the audience. This caused a great deal of merriment, as the gifts included everything from a box of crackerjack to a box of cigars and from a bandana handkerchief to a pet poodle dog.

During the evening, popcorn, apples and cider were served.

All enjoyed every minute of the evening and look forward to the next one.

At St. Joseph Santa Claus made an advance trip and was the guest of honor at a Christmas party in the business office of the telephone exchange. Santa not only was present himself, but brought Mrs. Santa Claus along for one of the jolliest of the holiday festivities. The office was prettily decorated for the affair and a large tree held gifts for each member of the company. A delightful program was arranged, Helen Keeler giving a vocal number, Emma Pearson a reading, and a chalk talk on Christmas was cleverly done by Ella Habel. A toast to the operators was extended by Mrs. Frank Hatfield. Schoeneberg and Rahn were

responsible for one of the most delightful features of the evening and loaned an Edison diamond disc machine for a musical program which was hugely enjoyed. Subscribers who had heard of the telephone party expressed their appreciation of the service by contributing boxes of delicious bon bons, and nuts and fruit were also thoroughly enjoyed. The 1916 Christmas party will long be remembered by St. Joseph employes as one of the most delightful in their experience.



CHRISTMAS PARTY AT BENTON HARBOR.

### Mr. Madsen Becomes a Bridegroom

The bachelor days of A. E. Madsen, plant accountant, ended in a blaze of glory just before the holidays.

It became generally known in the plant department, early in December, that the popular accountant was planning to bring to a happy fruition a little romance that began soon after his arrival in Detroit in June, 1915, and that Christmas morning had been set for the culmination of the affair. To add to the interest of the plant people, it chanced that the other principal in the affair was one of the most popular members of the stenographic force, Irene Kadz, stenographer to Mr. Hurlbut. It was almost too much for the well-regulated and efficient plant department employes.

Perhaps somewhat "peeved" because Mr. Madsen had deprived him of the services of a capable stenographer, Mr. Hurlbut proceeded to form a cabal that made life interesting for Mr. Madsen during the last few days of his bachelorhood. His plans culminated in a dinner given December 20th in honor of Mr. Madsen at the home of James Cleland by some of his most intimate associates in the plant department. Mr. Hurlbut served in the capacity of toastmaster and, according to Mr. Madsen, did more talking than all of the men present, all of whom were supposed to respond to a toast. The order of toasts was cleverly arranged under the heading "classification of accounts," together with a short statement of the nature of the chief account in which the various parties were interested.

Programs were arranged in a unique and original manner, on blue print cloth. The hand of some artistic engineer had decorated the cover with telephone poles and telephone circuits and with the inscription "Farewell Bachelor Days." Below the date line in the lower right corner was drawn the likeness of a fair maiden pointing at a gentle reminder to Mr. Madsen, which read: "This is your last party, Arnold." A splendid menu was by no means least among the many features that characterized this never-to-be-forgotten occasion.

Both the bride and groom received some very pretty presents from their associates in the plant department. The girls presented the bride with an electric iron and an electric toaster. Mr. Madsen's office was arrayed in holiday attire with plenty of mistletoe dangling from the chandelier. Little Cupids were in evidence everywhere and great bows of unusually wide red ribbon fastened to the chairs, desks and

everything that would bear them, made the office seem like almost anything other than the headquarters of an accountant. To one side of the room stood a beautiful floor lamp, the gift to Mr. Madsen of the male employes of the plant office. A handsome set of dishes adorned the desk, an expression of esteem from the department officials.

The nuptial plans were happily consummated Christmas morning at the home of the bride's parents at 609 Bewick avenue, Detroit. Mr. Madsen positively refused to say to what point the honeymoon trip would take them, but it was generally surmised that a trip to the home of his parents at Green Bay, Wis., was in contemplation.

### Important Work Projected

Following are brief outlines of important improvements projected:

#### Auburn.

Estimate M-16154 provides for the construction of farm poles and the stringing of wire to connect up twenty new farm line subscribers in the vicinity of Auburn.

#### Linwood

Estimate M-16157 provides for the reconstruction of farm lines in the vicinity of Linwood which have recently been purchased from the Pinconning Telephone Company and from J. J. Lambert. It also provides for the construction of extensions to these farm lines to connect up additional subscribers.

#### Sparta-Casnovia

Estimate M-16106 provides for one new No. 12 copper toll line circuit between Sparta and Casnovia.

#### Detroit-Wyandotte

Estimate M-16120 provides for three additional toll line circuits between Detroit and Wyandotte, two of which are physical circuits and one of which is a phantom circuit.

#### Jackson-Kalamazoo

Estimate M-16158 provides for one additional toll line circuit between Jackson and Kalamazoo.

### Growth in Office Forces Brings Problems

Growth of the various departments in the general offices in Detroit has kept real estate representatives of the Michigan State Telephone Company busy for many months looking for new building sites and office quarters.

The company recently acquired a lease on the Brown building, State street and Park place, which is now being remodeled and prepared for occupancy by the accounting and traffic departments. The company has taken possession of half of the third floor and all of the fourth, fifth and sixth floors. New stairways are being installed and provision is being made for elevator service.

Since the middle of the summer, the division auditor of receipts has occupied quarters in the Kresge building. The division auditor and accounting department will occupy the third, fourth and fifth floors of the Brown building when alterations are completed.

The sixth floor is to be the new home of the traffic department, which will make its second move in less than a year. Last summer when the plant department moved from the third floor of the Main building into the present location at Broadway and John R., the traffic department left its narrow quarters on the second floor for those vacated by the plant department on the third. Continued growth has again made floor space inadequate.

The engineering department is also scheduled to make a shift. Half of the third floor and all of the fourth floor of the Griswold building, the structure of flat-iron shape standing at Clifford and Griswold streets, have been leased for the use of the engineers. A part of the staff has already made the change, but the complete removal of the department will await the making of the other changes mentioned.

That part of the Cadillac exchange building now occupied by the accounting department is to undergo considerable alteration. It is to be fitted up for an operator's training school with four classrooms, rest room, kitchen and locker room.

A practice switchboard to accommodate forty-two student operators is to be installed. The school will be equipped to take care of 250 students. The new operators' school will probably be in operation some time in April.

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CHRISTMAS PARTY AT ST. JOSEPH.

### Mr. Van Hagan New Traffic Engineer

A. E. Van Hagan, formerly traffic engineer of the Central Group of Bell Telephone Companies, with headquarters at Chicago, has been appointed traffic engineer of the Michigan State Telephone Company with headquarters at Detroit. He succeeds Fred Clarke, whose retirement from the service is referred to in another column.

Mr. Van Hagan is especially welcomed by the large and steadily increasing body of Wisconsin University alumni employed by the Michigan State Telephone Company. He was graduated in 1906, soon thereafter entering the employ of the Chicago Telephone Company. Starting as assistant to the traffic engineer, Mr. Van Hagan was advanced to the position mentioned above which he relinquished to become traffic engineer of the Michigan State Telephone Company.



A. E. VAN HAGAN.

### Telephone Men Launch New Business

"The L. C. Auto Company, 218 West Pearl street, Jackson, Mich., distributors of Peerless and Jackson automobiles and Federal Motor trucks." Thus read the letter heads of a new concern of telephone men who launched their new business venture January 1st. L. stands for Leet, district manager of Jackson, and C. stands for Clarke, formerly traffic manager of the Michigan State Telephone Company. Both are well known to the telephone fraternity of Michigan and take with them the best wishes of a host of friends as they enter upon their new enterprise.

The L. C. Auto Company will occupy one of the finest auto sales rooms to be found in the state and the largest in Jackson. The company has taken a lease on a building having ninety-four feet frontage.



A. W. LEET.

It has been extensively remodeled, making it a thoroughly up-to-date sales room and service station. The 12,000 square feet of floor space will be used largely for the storing of cars, accommodations being provided for seventy-five machines. A room thirty-two by thirty-six feet in size and of pretty appointments will be used for sales purposes. A space thirty-two by forty-nine is reserved for shop work. Mr. Clarke will be in charge of the business until about May 1st, when he will be joined by Mr. Leet as an active associate.

Mr. Clarke began his telephone career eleven years ago as an evening manager in one of the residence exchanges in Chicago. He rose to the position of assistant traffic engineer in Chicago, which position he was holding at the time he was transferred to Detroit to become traffic engineer five years ago.

Mr. Clarke is succeeded by A. E. Van Hagan, of Chicago, traffic engineer of the central group of Bell companies.

Mr. Leet went to Jackson as district manager January 1, 1914. In the eight years that he has been in the employ of the company, he has risen from subscribers' representative to the management of the district office. Intermediate steps were manager at Hillsdale and Houghton and chief contract agent at Detroit. He held the latter position for the two years preceding his transfer to Jackson.

Friends of Mr. Leet and Mr. Clarke feel that their success in the new venture is a foregone conclusion.

### Organization Changes

J. Rodney Weeks, who has been manager at Jackson a little over a year, announced his resignation about the middle of December and his withdrawal from the employ

of the telephone company. Beginning January 1st, Mr. Weeks assumed the position of general sales manager of the Alloy Steel Spring Company, of Jackson. Mr. Weeks was popular in Jackson as the telephone manager and received some very complimentary press notices when he announced his change of occupation. His many friends among telephone employees, both in Jackson and in Detroit where he was formerly employed, wish him the best of success in his new field of labor.

Effective December 6th, V. R. Cummings succeeded Mrs. Inez E. Hill as manager of the Harbor Springs exchange. Mr. Cummings was formerly manager at Alma and previous to that he served in the same capacity at Ludington.

Allen G. Peppler became manager of the Kalkaska exchange December 4th, succeeding A. L. Whiting, who has been transferred to the Detroit plant department. Mr. Peppler is returning to the employ of the Michigan State Telephone Company, after a few months' service as lineman for the Boyne City, Gaylord & Alpena railroad. He entered the telephone service as night operator in 1910 and became a lineman in the succeeding years.

One of the new arrivals in the Michigan field is L. D. Speed, formerly of Syracuse, New York. He recently assumed the position of division engineer and will have charge of engineering work in the Detroit area. Mr. Speed is a graduate of the department of electrical engineering, Cornell University, class of 1905. Following graduation from college, he entered the employ of the New York Telephone Company at Brooklyn, taking a position in the aerial construction department. After five years of service he was promoted to the position of district engineer at Syracuse, where he lived till coming to Detroit last fall.



FRED CLARKE.



### New Manager at Kalamazoo

Dwight G. Watson, formerly manager of the Van Buren Telephone Company at Paw Paw, became manager at Kalamazoo, December 22d, succeeding W. C. Ben-schoten, who resigned to enter the insurance business.

Mr. Watson was born and raised in Van Buren county and has spent the greater part of his life there. Twelve years ago he left a position with Swift & Company, of Chicago, and began his telephone career as a "trouble shooter" for the Kibbie Telephone Company. His courteous and obliging ways, and his close application to business were soon rewarded by promotion. For the last five years he has been district manager for the Van Buren County Telephone Company.

Paw Paw newspapers referred to Mr. Watson in a most complimentary manner in making the announcement of his removal from that town. Michigan state employes welcome him into their ranks and wish him abundant success in his new position.

### New Manager at Kalkaska

On December 4th a change in managers was made at Kalkaska, A. L. Whiting, former manager, being transferred to the plant department at Detroit. Allen G. Pepler, the succeeding manager, was connected with the Petoskey wire chief's office for three years, but for the past six months has been in charge of the telephone equipment of the B. C. G. & A. Railroad with headquarters at Boyne City.

Mr. Pepler was recently married to Miss Elmendorf, who before her marriage was supervisor at the Petoskey exchange. Mr. Pepler is a young man of considerable ability and will no doubt make good in his new position.

### Portage Lake Line in Trouble

The cable across Portage Lake between Houghton and Ripley was damaged November 26th and telephone service between Houghton and Lake Shore towns suffered accordingly for a short time.

At the point where the submarine cable joins the underground cable, water found its way to the wires through a crack in the sleeve, probably caused by some defect in the sleeve itself. The trouble started about 12:30 Sunday afternoon, November 26th, and by five o'clock all of the 600 pairs were wet. Work was immediately started and the trouble was located.

It was necessary to dig up the street to get at the cable to make repairs. The ground was frozen to a depth of nine inches and fires had to be built in order to get through the frozen mass of crushed rock and stamp sand which covered that part of the street under which the damaged cable lay. By 10 o'clock the cable



L. R. WATSON.

had been reached and the trouble definitely located.

Arrangements were then made to have a pump on the ground to keep the water out of the excavation and the sleeve was opened, ready to be boiled out. This consumed nine hours, from three o'clock until noon the next day, before the first pairs began to show clear. At 7:15 Monday night all pairs were clear except two and these were cut over to good pairs until the old splice could be removed and a new length of cable substituted.

Although there were 318 lines in trouble, affecting in the neighborhood of 900 subscribers, none of the subscribers was out of service more than eighteen hours. The nature of the trouble was quite generally understood and there were no serious complaints.



ALLEN G. PEPPLER.

### Bowling at Detroit

Bowling at Detroit has resolved itself into an interesting contest between the four teams of the first division and the four of the second division. The teams are not so far apart but that almost any team in either frame has a chance to crowd out almost any other.

The Engineers still lead the league by a comfortable margin, at least at this writing, December 21st. Maintenance crawled up two notches on the Engineers and Construction in the bowling of the preceding evening by taking two from the league leaders. The bowlers took a vacation the first week in January to get in prime condition for the second half of the season.

Traffic, which brings up the rear of the league, will greatly miss the consistently good bowling of Clarke, who has left the employ of the company to enter the automobile business in Jackson. The traffic squad has been allowed to substitute Pratt of the Commercial for Clarke. Pratt has done some good bowling both this season and last and will be a good substitute for Clarke.

Following are some of the high scores made the evening of December 21st: Curtiss, Plant, 190; Wardell, Installation, 213; Pratt, Traffic, 197; Clarke, Traffic, 201; Lindsay, Engineers, 231; Locke, Engineers, 191; Dietsch, Construction, 190; Scheib, Construction, 200; McCormick, Maintenance, 224; Drean, Maintenance, 201; Ellis, Commercial, 207.

The league standing as of December 21st follows:

	Won.	Lost.	Per cent.
Engineering .....	28	11	.718
Construction .....	25	14	.641
Maintenance .....	23	16	.590
Commercial .....	21	18	.538
Plant .....	18	21	.462
Installation .....	16	23	.410
Accounting .....	15	24	.385
Traffic .....	11	28	.282

### Fire at Lewiston

Fire recently destroyed the town of Lewiston, Mountmorency county, in which the Mountmorency Telephone Company had an exchange. The business district was nearly all burned, but the telephone exchange escaped the fire. The telephone operators summoned help from nearby towns. Four business blocks were completely destroyed and it is doubtful at this time whether much of the town will be rebuilt, as it is an old lumbering town. There are less than a dozen subscribers left connected with the Lewiston exchange.

### Large Rural Development

One section of No. 3 switchboard at Stephenson has been replaced by a No. 105 board, the change becoming necessary on account of the steady growth in farm telephones. At present 230 farm telephones are connected with the Stephenson exchange. This is a remarkable rural development as there are only five hundred farmers in Stephenson township.

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### Chief Clerks Form Lunch Club

A new organization of telephone men came into being in Detroit Monday, December 18th.

As evidence of the tendency of kindred spirits to get together, the chief clerks of the various departments have for some time been talking of the advisability of meeting periodically or of forming some kind of an organization. The movement culminated in a meeting held at lunch time December 18th at the Library Park Hotel at which preliminary steps were taken to effect the desired organization. Eleven chief clerks were present and all showed considerable enthusiasm for the project. Election of officers was postponed until a future meeting when the full quota of chief clerks could be present.

The initial meeting was considered a decided success and all felt much good will come out of the plan. There will be a series of luncheons to be held every second Monday of the month. The first one indicated that the organization would fill a long-felt need among the members. It gave various employes who had been in the service of the company for some time without ever having met, a chance to get acquainted. This was productive of a feeling of greater fellowship which served to instill a greater degree of enthusiasm for work in each member and of even more staunch loyalty to the organization, if such a thing is possible. It was the opinion of each and every one that the meeting was a great success and that a move had been made in the right direction.

The purpose of the coming meetings will be to foster the feeling of community of interest among the members and by means of talks and discussions to get a better understanding of the problems that come up for consideration in the activities of the various individuals.

### Managers' Meeting

A meeting of managers of the Port Huron District was held at Port Huron on Thursday, December 14th, to take up special matters. After these special matters were taken care of the balance of the day was spent in talking over matters in general.

There were present: W. A. James, Mt. Clemens; H. A. Backus, Lapeer; F. S. Dudley, St. Clair; F. A. Smith, Marine City; Rex Teeters, Algonac; R. W. Venable, Romeo; W. R. Twiss, New Haven; H. J. Johnston, Port Huron; District Equipment Foreman J. H. Boardman, Port Huron.

After the day's work was completed, arrangements were made for a bowling game, Manager James acting as captain of one team and choosing Managers Johnston, Twiss, Teeters and District Manager Failing, while Manager Backus of team No. 2 chose Managers Venable, Dudley, —M



V. T. PALMITER.

Recently appointed manager of the Richland Exchange. Mr. Palmiter first entered the telephone field in February, 1914, as stenographer in the plant department. In October of the same year, changes in organization abolished the position and his interest in the telephone business was such that he wished to continue and took up interior plant work, working on main frame and records. Later he was in charge of the stock room. In October he was appointed manager at Richland, succeeding Harley Ferguson, who was promoted to the managership at Plainwell.

Smith and Equipment Foreman Boardman.

Team No. 2 was victorious in two games out of three and all low score records for Eastern Michigan were broken.



H. T. FERGUSON.

H. T. Ferguson, recently appointed manager at Plainwell, has been in the service of the Michigan State Telephone Company since 1910. After working as wagon man and installer at Kalamazoo, and as farm, local and long distance repairman, he was made manager at Richland in May, 1915. He was appointed manager at Plainwell in November, 1916.

### Dance at Grand Rapids

The Grand Rapids operators, with the assistance of the commercial, plant and accounting forces, gave a dance November 15th, for the purpose of raising funds to carry on their annual charity work. It was given at Laughfray's Dancing Academy, and was the largest attended dance ever held in that place. Nearly 800 people were present. Over 900 tickets were sold by the committee in charge of the affair. The largest amount ever raised by the operators for the annual Thanksgiving baskets was raised at this time.

The committee in charge consisted of Florence Hedt, chairman, main office; Regina Bolter, toll; Nellie Williams, south; Alice Clare, accounting; Gertrude Eble, commercial department.

### Fancy Dress Party at Ann Arbor

The "wimmen folks" of the Ann Arbor exchange do not do things by halves, as was demonstrated in a very emphatic manner recently when a large number of them, on invitation of Acenith Ware, plant clerk, gathered at the home of her sister, Mrs. Frank Wilkinson, on Fourth avenue for a fancy dress party.

It was one of the most enjoyable and successful events ever staged by the ladies of the Ann Arbor exchange. Trades, professions and characters in every walk of life were represented in costume, in degrees ranging from sublime court dignity to idiotic and ridiculous impersonations.

Some of the girls were especially clever in their representations. One affected the rôle of a cowboy who, armed with the favorite weapon of the rover of the plains, swung his lasso dangerously near the head of a burly "policeman." The latter then produced the customary ornaments which an officer of the law uses to adorn the wrists of a dangerous offender. Failing to instill the designed degree of terror, the "policeman" pulled out the ever-ready "billy" and was about to bring it heavily down on the cowboy's head when the latter made a clever maneuver with his lasso and presto—the stick had changed hands.

"A billy. Ha ha," came in tones of derision from the cowboy, who was scrutinizing it interestedly out of the corner of her eye and from under the eaves of her spreading hat. "A billy. Well, them's what our mothers jam 'taters with out in ole Texas—plain 'tater mashers we call 'em there. Bull rings and 'tater mashers and sheet o' tin cut star-like large as a chest protector. Why! out in ole Texas you'd be called a junk heap, never a copper; and that's just what we will have to consider you here. What say you, fellers?" There was a chorus of "Ya-bet-cha-pal," and from that moment on, for the rest of the evening, a good time reigned supreme.

The Wilkinson home was beautifully decorated and there was music, dancing and



FANCY DRESS PARTY AT ANN ARBOR.

refreshments to the heart's content. It was a wee sma' hour when the company disbanded.

### Detroit District

W. E. Dawson, service inspector, who returned to his duties September 1st, after an absence of seventeen months due to illness, has again been forced to his bed by a recurrence of the malady. His many friends extend sincere sympathy and wish for a speedy and complete recovery.

R. T. McComas, supervisor of methods, Detroit plant department, resigned December 1st, to accept a position with the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland. Mr. McComas came to Detroit three years ago, taking a position in the engineering department. His duties will be taken care of by various other employes.

Irene Hayes was confined to the house the early part of December with a serious case of sore throat. She had recovered sufficiently the week before Christmas to enable her to engage in the good fellow work, as is her custom at this time of the year. Detroit operators, as well as many other friends, were glad to have Miss Hayes back at work as she is always greatly missed by associates when off duty.

Charles F. Rich, formerly chief clerk to the commercial superintendent, is now serving in a similar capacity for the gen-

real traffic superintendent, succeeding C. A. Kramer. He left the commercial department to take up traffic work last spring and when Mr. Kramer recently entered upon a student training course, the general traffic superintendent took advantage of Mr. Rich's excellent knowledge of handling office detail and put him in charge of the work.

George Lawe and William Hall, of the Detroit plant department, sustained painful bruises November 25th when the truck in which they were riding collided with a street car. One of the front wheels of the truck came off, causing the accident. The two men were thrown to the pavement.

### Eastern District

Work on the consolidation of toll leads between Wyandotte has been completed by Foreman Maloney. One toll circuit has been added. Mr. Maloney is now at work on the reconstruction of the "River Trunk" lead between Detroit and Wyandotte.

Vida Van Pelt has returned to traffic duties at Wyandotte, after an absence of six months spent in Toledo and other Ohio points.

Eva Tucker, assistant chief operator at Wyandotte, was accorded a very pleasant surprise at the hands of the local operators the evening of November 22nd in hon-

or of her birthday. A very enjoyable evening is reported.

Automatic peg counters have been installed on local positions at Wyandotte.

### Grand Rapids District

Mary Peters, evening chief operator, who has been with the company since July, 1897, has been promoted to toll chief operator at Grand Rapids. Bertha Hall, toll supervisor, was promoted to evening chief operator.

A farewell party was given Hazel East-erly of the Grand Haven office at the home of Mrs. Charles Davis on Clinton street by the operators and friends. A very delightful evening was spent in various kinds of amusements. Music was furnished by Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Scott and an interpretative solo was given by Miss Jones. Dainty refreshments were served.

Ruth Shannessy, toll operator, has been promoted to bookkeeper at the Big Rapids exchange. Anna Carpenter succeeded Miss Shannessy.

Ruth Shannessy spent Thanksgiving at Cadillac. She was entertained at the home of Miss Lehny, one of the toll operators. In the evening the girls attended a Thanksgiving ball held in the Odd Fellows Hall.

Sadie Nell, toll chief operator at Grand Rapids, resigned December 1st to be mar-

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THANKSGIVING DINNER AT MAIN OFFICE, DETROIT.  
Somewhat belated, but too nice a picture to omit on that account.

ried. Miss Nell had been in the service since 1905. She carried with her the sincere good wishes of a large crowd of friends.

The following were recent visitors at the Grand Rapids exchange: H. W. Weed, traffic supervisor; H. E. Harrington, equipment supervisor; H. F. Crawford, formerly manager at Grant; Frank Sullivan, plant supervisor; J. H. Russell, toll wire chief, and William Badour, former manager at Dowagiac.

Ralph W. Corey, manager at Lake Odessa, possesses a new Ford, which he uses in his field of labor.

H. Earl McCane, repairman at Lake Odessa, has been spending his vacation at Traverse City, Manton and other northern points. His wife and son accompanied him.

### Kalamazoo District

On Saturday evening, November 25th, a large number of employees enjoyed a progressive pedro party held in the commercial office. The ladies' prizes were won by Mrs. E. P. Platt and Miss Steinberg, and the gentlemen's prizes by P. H. Wheeler, of Detroit, and Ralph Walters. Light refreshments were served.

Mrs. Margaret Hawley, formerly matron at Kalamazoo, has resigned and is succeeded by Mrs. Austine Norman. All regretted the departure of Mrs. Hawley, but welcome Mrs. Norman.

Clare M. Waldo has succeeded Sidney McLaughlin as testman at the Kalamazoo exchange.

LaRue Woodward, formerly repair clerk, has accepted the position of switchboard helper at Kalamazoo and has been succeeded by Fred L. Scholtz.

Robert N. Thomas, formerly of Detroit, has accepted the position of private branch exchange repairman at Kalamazoo, succeeding Alber Getchell, resigned.

William G. Livingston, of the plant department at Dowagiac, resigned November 18th and was succeeded by J. C. Schoggins. Mr. Schoggins comes from Big Rapids, Mich.

Northrup S. Van Horn has been transferred from Benton Harbor to Dowagiac as inspector.

Ivy Snell has been appointed clerk in the commercial department at Dowagiac, which relieves Hazel Ferrel, chief operator, of that part of the work. Miss Ferrel will now devote her time strictly to the traffic department.

Marie Taylor has accepted a position as operator at Dowagiac.

Marie Preston has resigned her position as operator at Eau Claire and the place is being temporarily filled by Idabelle Enders.

Edith B. Crowhurst, cashier of the Benton Harbor exchange, enjoyed her vacation visiting at nearby points.

Stella Lyle, chief operator of Benton Harbor exchange, and Emma Pearson, chief operator of St. Joseph exchange, enjoyed well-earned vacations after handling record-breaking traffic during the past summer and fall.

R. J. Cunningham, cableman, returned to

Benton Harbor December 5th, to resume his former duties after spending the past few months in the Detroit cable department.

Manager Edward Zwergel of the Niles exchange has received a warm letter of thanks from the Rev. Austin W. Lyons, pastor of the First Baptist church, and J. C. Webber, president of the brotherhood of the church. Mr. Zwergel supplied the election returns on November 7th to the church. The letter said:

The telephone service was most satisfactory. The returns we received were as complete as any received in the city. This service which our church was able to render for the people of the city was made possible by the courtesy of the Telephone Company. By this arrangement the Telephone Company was doing the people of Niles a real service, as the crowd was composed of different churches and from all parts of the city and surrounding country.

We sincerely thank the Telephone Company, the local Manager, the Chief Operator and the operators for the efficient service on election night.

Mrs. Minnie F. Brownlow, night operator at Benton Harbor, spent a week of her vacation in Chicago and one week in Joliet.

Fern Brant and Helen Babcock, Benton Harbor operators, spent their vacations in Chicago.

A plant meeting was recently held at Benton Harbor and all plant employees from Benton Harbor, St. Joseph, Watervliet, Coloma, Berrien Springs and Eau Claire were present. Plant matters were discussed quite freely and much good was derived from this meeting which will be held at least once a month in the future.

A Manufacturers' Bowling League was recently organized at Benton Harbor, con-



sisting of bowling teams from six factories. The Benton Harbor employes of the telephone company formed a team and entered this league. The team consists of Foreman Fitzgerald, C. E. Vanderhoof, Manager Watervliet exchange; Construction Foreman R. H. Kanode, Construction Cableman O. Osborn and Manager W. L. Stevens. The telephone company has won four out of the first six games played. Much enthusiasm is manifested over the good showing made.

Northrup S. Van Horn, repairman at Benton Harbor, has been transferred to Dowagiac. His position is filled by Harold Ross, former cableman's helper.

Construction Foreman R. Kanode returned to Benton Harbor recently to complete the work of providing additional cable facilities, which was discontinued some time ago on account of non-arrival of underground cable.

Mrs. Nunn, night operator of the Santa Cruz, Calif., exchange, visited Benton Harbor exchange recently.

Ziba A. Winget, farm repairman at St. Joseph, was married November 30th to Elizabeth Field of Chicago, the ceremony being performed at the home of the bride in Chicago. Mr. Winget has been a valued employe of the telephone company at St. Joseph for the past few years.

On November 27th Agnes A. Taylor, stenographer at Benton Harbor exchange, became the bride of Willard B. Kittell. The bride's sister, Mrs. B. C. McKee, accompanied her, J. J. Bergen being best man. Mrs. Kittell wore a charming costume of brown messaline satin and Georgette crêpe, with hat to match. The ceremony took place at 8 o'clock at St. John's Church rectory, the Reverend Father Mulcahy officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Kittell spent their honeymoon on short trips to nearby points and will reside at Dowagiac for the present. Mr. Kittell holds a responsible position with the Dowagiac division of the Benton Harbor-St. Joseph Railway & Light Company. Mrs. Kittell's many friends whom she has made in the offices of the Michigan State Telephone Company since May 1, 1914, will be glad to know that her marriage will not take her immediately from the city, as she will retain her position for some time.

### Marquette District

Amelia Wilmers, chief operator at Calumet, has returned to her duties, after an absence of four months due to illness.

Alberta Montpas, acting chief operator at Calumet during Miss Wilmer's absence, returned to her home in Powers. The operators of the Calumet exchange entertained Miss Montpas the evening of November 14th with a theater party, followed by a luncheon at Nelson's. Miss Montpas appreciated very much the splen-

by 'bus. It is evident they all ate too freely of the delicious turkey dinner served, as under the increased weight the 'bus broke down and the party had a most enjoyable midnight walk from Harvey to Marquette.

Blanche Shirkey and Luella Lattrel were added to the Marquette operating force during December. The increase in force was due to putting the exchange on a six-day-week basis.

The operators of the Marquette exchange surprised Marjorie Munro with a pedro party Monday night, December 11th, at the exchange rest room. Prizes were won by Blanche Shirkey and Luella Lattrel. The girls who did not play pedro danced. Refreshments were served and a box of the "good eats" was sent to Miss Macclam, who has been absent for some time on account of illness. All the girls who attended reported a splendid



SECOND ANNIVERSARY PARTY AT IRONWOOD.

did farewell given her by the girls.

The Ironwood Commercial Club sent a fine lunch to the operators on election night.

The operators of the Ironwood exchange received a box of home-made cookies from the Sullivan & Coombe bakery.

On November 22nd the Houghton exchange installed the telephone that brought the total number of stations in the exchange up to 3,000. This makes a total of 6,028 stations in the copper country.

A letter to K. S. Baker, district manager at Marquette, from W. S. Hill, a prominent attorney of that city, compliments the telephone company very highly on the splendid service rendered election night. He said in part: "It was an exceedingly public spirited thought which prompted it. The service must have cost a great effort not only on your part personally but on the part of your company. It seemed to us an unusually progressive enterprise and we all felt and still feel very much indebted."

Carrie Devine, chief operator at Marquette, enjoyed a two weeks' vacation during December.

Marjorie Munro, toll operator at Marquette, resigned December 16th. Miss Munro leaves to live in Detroit. She expects to take up telephone work there.

Ruth Miller, local operator at Marquette, succeeds Marjorie Munro as toll operator. Naoma Derocher succeeds Ruth Miller as local operator.

A party of fifty Marquette operators and their friends spent Thanksgiving at the Harris Camp, Lakewood. They made the trip down by train and returned part way

time.

A heavy sleet storm at Calumet on the morning of December 7th took down twenty-two poles on the Calumet-Eagle Harbor lead. Temporary repairs were made by the local force and lines were all working by the following day.

H. Wudtke of the Marquette plant department spent a week at his home in Ironwood.

The employes of the Ironwood exchange had their second annual party in the commercial department of the new building. Games were played and a Dutch lunch consisting of pork and beans, rye bread and butter, weiners, pie, and coffee was served by the girls. Those from out of town were: O. Manes, district foreman, Marquette; Lloyd Naset, Clifford Robinson, Ed. Crowley, Clair Altenberg and William Martin of Superior and Eau Claire, Wis.

A private branch exchange with two trunks and forty-two stations has been installed at the Anvil Mine at Bessemer.

Olive Truan and Geneva Quinn have been employed at Ironwood to help take care of the operating due to the new schedule which gives an operator, who works Sundays, a day off during the week.

Marguerite Beauchamp has joined the Ishpeming operating force.

Grace Terrill has been added to the Ishpeming commercial department force.

The Misses Turnquist and Flens have joined the Calumet operating force.

A team composed of Michigan State Telephone Company employes tied for

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first place with Ishpeming Business Men's Bowling League.

The operators of the Calumet exchange gave a skating and dancing party at the Coliseum on the evening of December 21st. The Calumet and Hecla band furnished the music for skating and the Calumet and Hecla orchestra was engaged for dancing. One thousand tickets were sold, besides a large number paying admission at the door. It was a very successful party, socially and financially.

### Petoskey District

Hattie Humphrey, chief operator at Gaylord, Mich., for the Onaway-Alpena Telephone Company, returned from her vacation in December. She visited at Flint, Saginaw and Lansing, and reports having a very enjoyable trip.

Mabel Parish, traffic supervisor of the Petoskey District, supervised two and one-half miles of the Michigan Central Railroad track on the morning of December 13th. She was on her way from Petoskey to Cheboygan. Owing to a wreck two miles and a half north of Cheboygan the train was delayed at that point. It being a fine morning and the ground covered with only about seven inches of snow, she and a lady from Mackinaw City decided to count the ties to Cheboygan. She says that they enjoyed the two and a half mile hike very much.

Anna Stan, toll operator at Traverse City, has resigned and is succeeded by Vera Seberry. Miss Stan was given a surprise party by the operators, which was very much enjoyed by all attending. A "pot luck" supper was served and Miss Stan was presented with a dainty sugar and cream set.

Mr. Sprague, manager of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company at Kingsley, has been doing a very good business since he took up the work November 1st. He has received twenty-seven new orders since that time.

The Leelanau Mutual Telephone Company at Northport had a stockholders' meeting, Saturday, December 9th. This company has been growing very rapidly. At the present time the company is building two new farm lines which will accommodate about twenty new subscribers.

F. R. Dodge, wire chief at the Scottville exchange, and his wife delightfully entertained the entire Scottville telephone force with a most delicious rabbit supper on the evening of December 6th. Besides the operating force the guests present were: Mabel Curtiss, manager; E. S. Lane of the equipment supervisor's force, who is installing a new toll switchboard, and L. Stimpson and C. Hanzi, cablemen.

On Thanksgiving evening the operators at Scottville had a most enjoyable oyster supper together at the home of Mrs. Carrie La Belle, night operator.

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### Port Huron District

On December 1st the Port Huron exchange passed the 3,500 mark in number of stations. The total on that day was 3,515 stations, which makes an increase of over 300 for the first eleven months of the year.

Anna Southerland, operator at the Port Huron exchange, has returned to her duties after spending her vacation with friends in Detroit.

William Rideout of the commercial department, Detroit, assisted by C. E. Stark, is making a five years' commercial estimate of the growth of the Port Huron exchange.

Valeno Prince, installer No. 1 at the Port Huron exchange, resigned his position December 1st.

Alex D. Johnston has accepted a position in the Port Huron plant department.

Laura and Ethel Cooper, toll operators of the Port Huron exchange, have returned to their duties after spending their vacations with friends in Flint.

On December 7th a number of employees of the Port Huron exchange held a business meeting at the home of Manager Johnston to complete plans for a Christmas tree in the Exchange Building. After the business was completed, Margaret Pettengill, from the District office, gave several fine readings. The girls also furnished a number of songs with the able assistance of Eric Noetzel and Alex Johnston of the plant department, after which light refreshments were served by Mrs. Johnston.

Margaret Pettengill, chief clerk for District Manager C. C. Failing at Port Huron, graduated in elocution November 28th. She gave a recital in the assembly rooms of the Elks' Temple, for the pleasure of her many friends. Miss Pettengill was assisted by Phillipa Treleaven, soprano, and Ross Wilson, bass soloist. Miss Pettengill received a number of handsome gifts.

Mrs. May Klair has been appointed chief operator and cashier at the Roseville exchange. She formerly worked at the Mount Clemens exchange for several years.

Elizabeth Eddy is first day operator at the Roseville exchange.

W. A. James has taken over the management of the Roseville exchange in connection with the Mount Clemens exchange. The manager, Otto Haselhuhn, of Roseville, resigned his position to enter other lines of work.

Oleda Joure, chief operator at Marine City, spend her vacation at Alpena, Mich. She reported a pleasant time. She says she made faces at a number of black bears, but did not have the heart to shoot any.

F. G. Grimes is the new construction foreman who will take up the estimate between Mount Clemens and Detroit, previously worked on by Construction Foreman Fred Maier and Construction Foreman Charles Wilkinson. This is the estimate which calls for the stringing of one new circuit between Mount Clemens and

Detroit, as well as general repairs to the heavy toll lead between those points.

Clara Chapman, operator at Algonac, was married on Thanksgiving morning to Leo Beis of Detroit. Mr. and Mrs. Beis will make their home in Detroit.

Milo Gough has been engaged as repairman at Marine City, succeeding Casimir Rose, resigned.

A very pleasant little party was held at the residence of Mrs. Stella Beebe Westrick, a former telephone operator at the Marine City exchange, on Tuesday evening, December 5th, in honor of the present operators. Prizes were given for the most comic costumes which were won by Yvonne Farman, local operator at Marine City, and Miss Jackson of Algonac. The entertainment of the evening consisted of various games and contests, the winner receiving a prize, and was finally brought to a close by a luncheon.

### Saginaw District

On Friday evening, December 22nd, the employees of the Saginaw exchange gave a keno party in the East office. About fifty of the employees were present. Twenty birds and a little pig were raffled off. Excitement ran high and the plant department got away with most of the birds. Mrs. Frank Dunham was the luckiest person, winning the first two birds and later in the evening she won a pair of chickens. It was rumored that she had a rabbit's foot in her possession. Excitement was strong when the pig was raffled off, as this wee porker seemed to be the most desirable prize. This baby pig had touched the responsive chord in the hearts of the guests, or at least everyone had worked up an appetite for it. However, Don Smith was the lucky man and he was looked on with envy by all the rest of the party. Mr. Mason, Ed Mintline and C. Boone were the official callers and were very satisfactory in this capacity. Messrs. Stuhler, Mintline and Boone were the promoters of the party, which was enjoyed by all.

Here is a picture of "Jack" Evans, the young son of Commercial Manager Evans,

of Saginaw, which was taken while Mr. Evans was on a hunting trip last fall. From all appearances, this young man is quite a Nimrod and his friends claim him to be the champion of his class in the whole hunting district of Michigan. As the picture might indicate, "Jack" is usually in a good humor, not only with himself but with the whole wide world besides.



JACK EVANS.

## President Sunny's Annual Luncheon

Officials and department heads of the Chicago Telephone Company to the number of 150 were the guests of President B. E. Sunny at luncheon at the Hotel LaSalle, December 30th. This luncheon, which Mr. Sunny has given annually during the Christmas season for the past six years, is one of the most pleasant affairs of the year.

The guests entered the Red Room to the music of the Bell Telephone Orchestra, under the direction of E. B. Moebius, which, during the luncheon, alternated musical numbers with the Bell Telephone Glee Club, under the direction of Daniel Protheroe. The glee club was placed behind screens in the lower end of the room.

Holiday greens and Christmas bells decorated the room. Above the speakers' table the words, "Happy New Year," appeared in electric lights.

In welcoming the guests, Mr. Sunny briefly referred to the extraordinary growth of the telephone service in Chicago and suburbs during the year and congratulated the officials and employees on the manner in which the problems growing out of the unprecedented demand for service had been met. He announced that the day brought another important anniversary—the twenty-fifth of Mr. Hill's connection with the Bell Telephone System. The applause elicited by this announcement attested the esteem in which Mr. Hill is held by those with whom he is closely associated. Mr. Sunny surrendered the gavel to Mr. Hill, who presided during the remainder of the program, which included speeches by Alonzo Burt, W. R. Abbott, Eugene S. Wilson, F. A. dePeyster, E. H. Bangs and A. B. Crunden. These speeches were all brief and mostly in light vein.

Mr. Hill then called for "Mr. Dooley and Mr. Hinnessey," and their entrance in appropriate costume began an hour of drollery which formed the pièce de résistance of the afternoon. Mr. Dooley, impersonated by C. E. Sutton, and Mr. Hinnessey, by T. J. Hardy, in an amusing dialogue, reviewed the various telephone events of the year, including the "Phoney Phair," the Preparedness Parade, the opening of Margaret Mackin Hall and some other happenings

of the year not so familiar to the audience.

The sheriff of McHenry County stalked in in the person of J. H. Riddell and read a report covering a certain affair last summer in which several high officials of the telephone company suffered arrest on the heinous charge of playing casino for large stakes while camping in the sheriff's bailiwick.

J. J. Cleary appeared as "fiscal agent" of the "Phoney Phair," reporting that the balance on hand after settling all affairs of



PLAYERS CLUB MEMBERS WHO PERFORMED AT ANNUAL LUNCHEON.

Above, left to right: J. J. Cleary, "fiscal agent"; T. J. Hardy, "Mr. Hinnessey"; C. B. Robinson, "orderly"; J. H. Riddell, "sheriff of McHenry County"; C. E. Sutton, "Mr. Dooley." Below: E. L. Bauer, "child"; W. L. Larkin, "stone mason"; H. J. Birmingham, "mermaid."

the phair consisted of one female child left in the check room unclaimed, and which had, by the time of the report, grown considerably. The "child" appeared, impersonated by E. L. Bauer.

The corner stone laying at Margaret Mackin Hall was travestied by W. L. Larkin and H. J. Birmingham, the former representing the mason who completed the laying of the corner stone, and the latter, one of the "mermaids" who disported themselves in the swimming pool at the hall on the opening day.

C. B. Robinson appeared as an orderly with a report from Grand Marshal F. A. dePeyster, on the fate of the Preparedness Parade, which was last seen disappearing westward on Jackson boulevard minus the band.

The entertaining foolery was written by E. H. Bangs and A. P. Allen and the men who presented it were members of the Bell Telephone Players' Club.

The guests dispersed after many handshakings and wishes for a happy New Year.

## Do You Read?

Reading is the simplest and the least expensive form of education. Yet there are thousands of men in the world who say—"I read very little. I am no bookworm." These men have never learned the keen joy of reading. They are unaware that it quickens the mind, broadens the viewpoint, improves the speech. They readily concede that conversation and exchange of ideas, whether in a hotel lobby, on a train, or in the barber shop, add to their general knowledge. But reading—aside from the newspapers—is regarded as having no place of value in the daily business of life. "I have no time" is the average comment. "Now my son (or brother) at school takes to that stuff. It is all right for him."

Recently *System Magazine* started an investigation on the extent to which business men read. This magazine solicited three hundred representative men and found that fifty per cent. of that number read for the good of their work or business. Less than ten per cent. acknowledged that their business reading was spasmodic or entirely neglected. Most of these men have a definite schedule for their reading. More than four-fifths of them do part or all of it at home during the evening. Others read every noon-hour, many while traveling. Twenty-two per cent. of this number clip or make notes and file the ideas.

Reading keeps men in touch with opportunities, ideas, new thoughts. Reading of the right kind is in itself an opener to successful methods.—*The Addressographer*.

## Beware the Sunday Snooze

Recently compiled statistics show that the death rate in this country after the age of forty is increasing. This increase is due, it is claimed by competent medical men, to the sedentary habits of most men in middle life. The trouble is they do not take enough outdoor exercise. They ride to business when the walk in pleasant weather would do them good. They will lie down and take a nap in a close, stuffy room immediately after eating a hearty Sunday dinner, when a long walk in the open air would aid digestion, harden the muscles and keep them in better condition to resist sickness and disease.—*Bulletin of the Chicago Health Department*.





WINTER SCENES AT MARGARET MACKIN HALL



## First Christmas at Margaret Mackin Hall

December 27, 1916.

My dear Sister:

Such a wonderful Christmas as I have had! I spent it at Margaret Mackin Hall, our country house in Warrenville.

I arrived in the evening. When I opened the door there stood one of the most beautiful trees I have ever seen! Glittering from base to top, loaded with pretty ornaments and gifts, the tree stood in the middle of the room and back of it blazed the logs. The house is beautifully decorated, mantel banked with greens and poinsettia. Upstairs decorated with white to imitate falling snow. Everywhere showed good taste and no end of labor. Miss Poole as chairman of the decorations committee and her assistants are to be congratulated.

That (Saturday) evening we all attended the Christmas entertainment at the village church, to which church Miss Reuse and the girls made a gift of a Christmas treat.

Sunday we had such a lovely day. Directly after dinner we tobogganed—and in full regalia. Lake Forest hasn't anything on us as to "class." With toboggan coats, bloomers, moccasins, etc., we looked the part. The climbing up the slippery hill gave us added exercise so that I still ache as a result.

Before Mr. and Mrs. and "Junior" De Peyster, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Hyatt and Miss Hiler left, they received their gifts from the tree. Miss Hiler distributed numbers, the lucky number 13 to draw the prize. Miss Grandchamp drew it and it proved to be a dolly. Of course we had to have a dolly. Christmas would not be complete without one.

In the evening in the playroom there was singing and dancing. Miss Regan gave us an exhibition of clever jigging. Later in the evening in the living room all the lights were turned out except those on the tree and the Christmas candle which burned in the window. John McCormack was "put on" and while we sat around the fire he sang for us "Adeste Fidelis."

On Christmas day several got up for early church. Will I ever forget that sun-

rise! Red, silver, and a touch of black—the snow and the iced bushes and trees—do you see it with me?

Christmas dinner, umm! Tables formed to make a five pointed star. On each table was a tree with candles. In the center of the star was poinsettia and cyclamen. And the eats! Unless your good imagination has gone bad, you know how good everything was.



CHRISTMAS AT MARGARET MACKIN HALL.

We were seated in the living room after dinner when Santa Claus arrived with his sleigh! He had such a load! Mr. Rohrbach played Santa Claus and Miss Reuse assisted him well.

Miss Reuse made us all feel so at home. She is to be congratulated on the Hall's first Christmas party, and I for one hope to be invited again next year.

Write me about your Christmas. Hope Santa was good to you. Best wishes for the coming year.

Affectionately yours,

"SISTER."

## New Year's Party at Margaret Mackin Hall

By KATHERINE RYAN

Ring out the old, Ring in the new! This was the watchword at Margaret Mackin Hall on New Year's eve, 1916 and 1917, the first New Year's eve since its opening. Those who were so fortunate as to have been present will long remember the occasion.

Margaret Mackin Hall, ever beautiful, loomed up with seemingly more welcome than ever in the dazzling sunshine of that wonderful day. And situated as it is in such a quiet and peaceful village as Warrenville, wherein the very atmosphere and

every environment breathe contentment, happiness, rest and comfort, a close or even casual observer could not help but congratulate those responsible for selecting such a spot for such an institution.

This is the impression one gets while standing gazing at the building with its picturesque and pleasing surroundings. Imagine then, if you can, the interior of Margaret Mackin Hall. If the exterior can be called beautiful, where! oh where! in the English, French, or in that euphonious language of the Spaniard, or in fact, in any language, can I find the word or phrase to convey to you my impression of the interior. Words fail me in this, and truly I think that even Washington Irving, handy as he was with his facile pen, would have a difficult task presented to him were he asked to describe what came within the range of vision when one stepped across the threshold of Margaret Mackin Hall at any time, but particularly during the Christmas holidays.

Picture, in your mind's eye, a spacious hall beautifully and gorgeously decorated with holly wreaths and evergreens distributed in a very artistic and pleasing manner; add to that bouquet upon bouquet of that sweet-smelling poinsettia, one of California's rarest gifts to the world; then top this off with a Christmas tree, naturally beautiful, but made more so by added adornment of emblazoning attire and surrounded by appropriate plants, one the gift of Mr. Hill, vice president, to Miss Reuse, another from Mr. Hill to Miss Poole, our nurse, and still another to Miss Reuse from Mrs. Rohrbach, wife of the caretaker, then you have the faintest, most infinitesimal, conception of the splendor of that hall in its myriad colors.

After an appetizing and delicious dinner, we dressed in toboggan suits and disported ourselves merrily upon the toboggan while the convalescents rested awhile, conserving their energy and strength for a joyous welcome to the mythological infant known as "Happy New Year."

At 5:30 p. m., the old, familiar and always welcome call to supper was heard. Following the partaking of the wholesome food, we were entertained by Bessie O'Donnell, a guest, who favored us with a few very pretty songs. Jule Booker (considered one of the convalescents, but this I question), another sweet-throated girl, also helped while away the minutes with song. Then the machine which made famous the fox terrier sitting with his ear cocked

gazing into the opening of the same machine while he was listening to His Master's Voice—the Victrola—was wound up, and to the entrancing and fascinating tunes, the whole company "tripped the light fantastic," not, however, forgetting the dance mother loved so well, the Virginia Reel. (And who says Miss Reuse can't dance an Irish jig?)

And so the merry-making went on and on, and when Miss Reuse, at 11:55 p. m. advised us that it was five minutes to midnight, we were quite consumed with surprise to think the hours had so rapidly flitted by. We armed ourselves hastily and surely with horns and clappers, and in fact every possible noise-producing contrivance at hand, at twelve midnight, the minute when Old Man Old Year, with his long white beard and scythe upon shoulder, carrying in his hand his hour-glass in which the sands of time have spent themselves, crosses the Great Divide and slips into obscurity forever; when off in the distance, faintly observed on the horizon of time, is seen a ruddy-cheeked, smiling-countenanced, dimple-chinned, blue-eyed infant, riding upon the silver lining of the clouds, the Spirit of the New Year. Simultaneously, throughout the world the noise of whistles, and the ringing and tolling of bells, sound the knell of Old Man Old Year and the advent of the New Year. Pandemonium breaks loose, and throats are split and lungs emptied with the lusty yelling of the multitudes. This picture, found in all quarters on New Year's eve at the Witching Hour, was similar to that taking place at Margaret Mackin Hall. Refreshments were served after this exciting fifteen minutes (hot chocolate and apples and "animules," etc.), after which everyone wished Miss Reuse a very Happy New Year and retired for the night.

On New Year's Day, quite unexpectedly (yet very welcome were they) there burst upon the scene Doctors McClellan and Greer of the health department, just in time for a big, bountiful dinner. These two men were "The Men of the Hour," as it suddenly developed there were no less than six reserved-places at the different tables for each doctor, and if Miss Reuse hadn't come to their assistance it seemed evident that they would have to eat their dinner "buffet" style in order to "keep peace in the family."

To wind up two days crowded chock-full of happiness, merriment and joy, Mr. Abbott, general manager, telephoned to Miss Reuse, wishing her and all within the portals of Margaret Mackin Hall a very Happy New Year.

Who says Margaret Mackin Hall isn't the "haven of happiness for the Chicago telephone girls?"

### Don't Borrow

A dollar looks twice as big when you are paying it back as when you borrow it.

### Planning for the Future

How a great telephone company, occupying a rapidly growing field, plans its extensions is outlined by President Bernard E. Sunny, of the Central Group of Bell Telephone Companies, in a recent article in the *Chicago Herald*. While Mr. Sunny's statement is directed to explaining methods of the Chicago Telephone Company, the practices outlined are followed, substantially, by the other companies of the Central Group and by Bell Companies generally throughout the country.

The *Herald* article was written in support of a recommendation that the city government of Chicago adopt some methodical plan in providing for the future needs of the public institutions and city departments generally. It said:

How the Chicago Telephone Company for years has successfully followed very much the same plan of financial survey as recommended to the City of Chicago by Oscar Hewitt in the *Herald* was told yesterday by President Bernard E. Sunny.

Under the system of providing for the future the company officials know what its financial needs will be until 1930. Specifically, it knows its exact capital requirements for 1917 and what to expect in each succeeding year.

In the successful working of this plan city officials will find much to support the views of leading bankers, trade experts and other prominent Chicago business men who have approved Mr. Hewitt's suggestion to appoint a commission to make a like study for the city.

The survey is made under the supervision of the board of directors in much the same way that it has been suggested that the commission of citizens should make the city survey.

### Outlines Telephone System

"Every September or October our experts submit to the board of directors estimates of every expenditure proposed during the following year to meet the normal development of the system throughout the city," said Mr. Sunny.

"Our records take into consideration the character of practically every block in Chicago. They report upon the changing character of neighborhoods. Real estate experts are consulted as to probable future developments. For instance, if next year's growth of our business necessitates the addition of 100 yards of cable in a certain district and inquiry shows that in three years the expected development would make it necessary to put in three times that amount, we put in the 300 yards of cable at once. It is less expensive to lay the cable at one time and to let it remain unused for a comparatively short time than it is to tear up the streets and to pay the cost of its installation three times to provide the same service.

"The same method is applied to esti-

imating the number of instruments, the establishment of new exchanges, the amount of wages to be paid, the cost of street paving and materials.

### So With the City

"Mr. Hewitt's suggestion is in the right direction. City finances are governed by much the same considerations and should be studied so that future needs may be known and provided for. It is the only way that a full return may be had for every dollar expended.

"We divide our estimates into three classes—immediate, necessary and desirable. 'Immediate' expenditures are those which must be made at once to keep things going properly; 'necessary' expenditures are those which must be made in a reasonable time to meet new demands; 'desirable' expenditures is the designation we give to outlays which would improve the service and increase the efficiency, but which do not have to be made to meet all ordinary requirements."

The telephone company operates in every mile of territory in Chicago. Its service reaches all classes of people and must be adapted to meet constantly changing demands. The nature of the service is perhaps as like that given by the city government as any that could be found. It has a payroll numbering thousands of men and women. The classification of employees is as diversified as that of the city pay roll. The regulation of its business through the city council makes it for all purposes of comparison a public institution.

### Bell Man Receives Important Post

At the request of Secretary of War Baker, Walter S. Gifford, statistician of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, has been granted a twelve-weeks leave of absence by the telephone company in order that he may act during that time as director of the Council of National Defense, a government body recently authorized by Congress.

This council is composed of six members of the cabinet and is assisted by an advisory committee of seven civilians.

Mr. Gifford had previously acted as director of the Committee on Industrial Preparedness of the Naval Consulting Board—at that time a semi-official organization assisted by the engineering societies of the country. In that capacity he had supervised the work of taking an inventory of the industries of the country which could be of assistance in a program of military preparedness.

Mr. Gifford's many friends in the telephone service will be interested in his selection for the important preliminary work of the Council of National Defense and in the compliment paid the Bell Telephone System in the choice of one of its men by the government for that work.

## Notable Achievements in the Electrical Field During 1916

President B. E. Sunny of the Central Group of Bell Telephone Companies Reviews Progress of the Industry

From the *Chicago Herald*, January 1, 1917

Progress in the developments of the electrical industry during the last year is very well shown by the variety and extent of its applications. Reference has previously been made to the use of the turbo generators and electric motors for propelling naval vessels, and it is interesting to note that our government now proposes to use this system of propulsion on the largest and fastest of our new battle cruisers, each of which will carry electric propelling machinery having a capacity of 180,000 horse power. The electric motor has also demonstrated its superiority over the steam engine for driving rolling mills in steel plants, and practically all of the mills built or designed during the last year have adopted this system of drive.

In striking contrast to the large machines used in ship propulsion and in steel mills are the motors used in dental work, which weigh only a few ounces and deliver less than a hundredth of a horse power when operating at 20,000 revolutions per minute. Phonographs driven by small electric motors are becoming popular and seem destined to supersede the spring operated machines.

### Use of Electric Steel.

There has been a large increase in the number of arc furnaces and electric steel of fine quality is now being used in many industries. Plants for the electric deposition of zinc have recently been installed and placed in service, and their very successful operation confirms the belief that electric current will in the future be a great factor in the refining of this metal. The production of oxygen by the electrolytic decomposition of water and the manufacture of nitric acid through the "fixation" of atmospheric nitrogen by means of the electric arc are important developments which have been greatly extended during the last year.

Improvements in incandescent lamps with tungsten filaments have gone on steadily, and not only their efficiency but the quality of the light which they give has been made better and a greater variety of lamps offered to the customer. Single units as large as 5,000 candle power and others as small as a fraction of a candle power and no larger than a grain of wheat are now available.

### Conserves Coal Supply

Electricity is our universal and efficient agent for transforming stored energy into useful work. It harnesses the power of the waterfall, and thus becomes the greatest factor in the conservation of our coal supply. The motor on the electric locomotive also becomes a generator when the

train which it hauls descends a grade and returns power to the trolley to assist in pulling other trains up the grade. The engineers of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway have taken full advantage of this circumstance on the electrified portion of their road over the Rocky Mountains.

One of the most satisfactory developments of the past year has been the greatly increased demand by the investing public for electric securities of all kinds, and particularly those of public service corporations.

### Increase in Telephones.

Regarding matters of interest in the local telephone field, there has been an increase in the number of telephones in Chicago and suburbs of 11.28 per cent between December 26, 1915, and December 26, 1916, and 11 per cent. increase in this connection means that over 55,000 telephones have been added to the Chicago system during the year just coming to a close. Telephones in service on December 26, 1915, and December 26, 1916, numbered 503,462 and 558,874, respectively; increase over 1915, 55,412.

In keeping with this large increase in the number of telephones, the traffic has increased in a marked degree. On the two busy days before Christmas in 1915 the total number of calls handled each day was 2,547,000. In 1916 the two busy days preceding Christmas averaged 2,960,600 calls each, an increase of 413,600 calls, or 16 per cent. On the two days immediately following Christmas, when the traffic had returned to normal, the 1915 record showed an average of 2,238,800 calls per day, while in 1916 there were 2,542,100 per day, an increase of 303,300, or 13 per cent.

### New Loop Building.

The telephone traffic in Chicago's business center is increasing so rapidly that constant additions to equipment have made necessary the construction of a new building on the south side of Washington street, between Franklin and Market streets. When completed this building will accommodate the following exchanges of the Chicago Telephone Company which are now scattered over the loop district: Main, Central, Franklin and Randolph, and eventually Toll and Long Lines service.

The Chicago Telephone Company will distribute about \$600,000 among its employees at the first of the year. This is to enable them to meet the high cost of necessities, and will not take the place of regular increases in salaries to those in line for promotions.

### Long-Distance Feats.

The foremost achievement in the field of long-distance telephony during the year

1916 occurred June 14th, when simultaneous and continuous communication was maintained between thirty-five cities during a nation-wide meeting of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The most distant cities were 4,850 miles apart (Seattle and New Orleans); they were connected by 74,532 miles of wire, along 16,429 miles of poles and through 460 miles of underground cable, and 4,815 alumni and guests of the M. I. T. put motions, passed resolutions, sang and conversed and cheered just as intimately and sociably as if they had been together in one great meeting.

A notable event of a somewhat similar character was the long-distance meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, in which chapters in Atlanta, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and San Francisco participated, audiences in all of the cities named listening to scientific addresses by John J. Carty and Professor Pupin, while Alexander Graham Bell heard his address of welcome cheered from coast to coast.

These two meetings demonstrated conclusively that the President of the United States could, if the occasion arose, convene the governors of the United States in the various state capitals and consult and confer with them upon any momentous question which might confront the nation.

Mr. Sunny's article closes with a statement of the growth of the Commonwealth Edison Company.

### Letter Writing

Avoid carefully such words and stock phrases as: "Beg to acknowledge," "beg to inquire," "beg to advise," etc. Don't beg at all.

Avoid "the same" as you would a plague. Don't say: "Inclosed herewith." "Herewith" is superfluous. Don't "reply" to a letter, answer it. You "answer" a letter, and "reply" to an argument.

Be wary of adjectives, particularly superlatives; "very," "great," "tremendous," "excellent," etc., have marred many an otherwise strong phrase and have propped needlessly many a good word, all-sufficient in itself.

Don't forget that certain small words are in the language for a purpose. "And," "a" "the," are important, and their elimination often makes a letter bald, curt and distinctly inelegant.

Don't write your name or your initials so that no one can read them. A clear signature, plain written figures, are a delight to the reader.—From Booklet, "The Writing of Good Letters for (R. T.) Crane Co."

## BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

Published Monthly by

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### Government Ownership in Theory and Practice

In a paper read before the Farmers' National Congress recently, Hon. Frank G. Odell, of Omaha, who has made an exhaustive study of government-ownership of telephone and telegraph lines for the Farmers' National Congress of the United States, made the following statement:

"The lack of business methods in the postoffice department is chiefly due to the perennial and eternal interference of Congress. The pork barrel is a glorified Statue of Liberty to the average congressman and senator. Lest I be thought to belie your representatives, permit me to burden your thought very briefly with a portion of the record of their wasteful extravagance:

"There is no partisanship in 'Pork.' No one political party has a monopoly of this pernicious abuse of official position. The continual loading of the Rivers and Harbors bill and the Public Buildings bill with extravagant appropriations for the benefit of local political interests, has become so common as to call forth condemnation of good citizens of every shade of political allegiance.

"The following examples of appropriations wholly or in part for postoffice buildings are taken from the Public Buildings bill of 1915:

	Population	Appropriation
Susanville, Cal.	1919	\$ 60,000
Mancos, Cal.	638	50,000
Brooksville, Fla.	567	100,000
Greenville, Ga.	979	60,000
Halley, Idaho	909	100,000
McKee, Ky.	1,231	75,000
Salersville, Ky.	146	75,000
Clayton, Ky.	310	125,000
Pembina, N. D.	970	75,000
Franklin, N. C.	717	75,000
Pawnee, Okla.	379	200,000
Seneca, S. C.	2,161	100,000
Louisa, Va.	1,313	50,000
Webster Springs, W. Va.	318	150,000
Sundance, Wyo.	500	75,000
	281	

The callous attitude of the average member of Congress toward this extravagant

expenditure of public money for political purposes is aptly expressed by the following quotation from a speech by Congressman J. E. Garner, of Texas, made at the Atacosta, Texas, fair, as reported in an editorial in the *New York Evening Post*, October 15, 1915:

"There are half a dozen places in my district where federal buildings are being erected or have been recently constructed at a cost to the government far in excess of the actual needs of the communities in which they are located. Take Uvalde, my home town, for instance. We are putting up a postoffice down there at a cost of \$60,000, when a \$5,000 building would be entirely adequate for our needs."

"This is mighty bad business," Mr. Garner continues, "for Uncle Sam, and I'll admit it. But the other fellows in Congress have been doing it for a long time and I can't make them quit. Now we democrats are in charge of the House and I'll tell you right now, every time one of those Yankees gets a ham, I'm going to do my best to get a hog."

B. E. Sunny, president of the Central Group of Bell Telephone Companies, discussing government ownership before the Bond Men's Club of Milwaukee, is reported as follows:

"All that can be said against government ownership of the railways can be said, and much more can be added, with respect to the telephone. The fact that private corporations in the United States in forty years, without government aid or assistance of any kind, have built up a system of 10,000,000 telephones as against 4,000,000 telephones, mostly government owned, in all of the nations of the earth outside of the United States, is in itself a conclusive answer to the proposition."

\* \* \*

The vital question in every home is the cost of living. It is paramount to any question with reference to railway rates or the charges made by any of the utilities, for the reason that the services of these enterprises are an exceedingly small part of the total cost of living. If in a summary of all of the items which have risen in price, these utilities are not included, then it would appear that the necessity for further attention by the federal or state governments is about ended. If they are being operated in a reasonable and satisfactory way, and are charging moderate prices in the face of all that is to be done in other directions, it would not be asking too much of the government to leave them alone.

If the government is anxious for something upon which to spend its energy, ingenuity and resourcefulness, the Bradstreet list furnishes a number of suggestions, one of which might be mentioned. The price of eggs in 1914 was twenty-six cents a dozen, and on December 1, 1916, forty-five cents. Since January 1, 1916, the price has increased eighteen per cent., and in two years seventy-three per cent. We are pro-

ducing about two billion dozen eggs a year, which is not enough to take care of the consumption. In addition, we import six million dozens of eggs, and three billion, four hundred thousand pounds of yolks (or canned eggs). We must all agree that the egg is of vastly greater interest to the average human than freight rates, or the cost of electric light, telephone or telegraph service. He is not only interested in getting the egg but he is interested in having the price held down so that it will not cost seventy-three per cent. more than formerly.

Why not, then, the government ownership of hens?

Not only does the price of eggs need regulation if our stomachs are to be satisfied without emptying our pocketbooks, but the hen herself requires to be shorn of her independence and notorious lack of order and efficiency.

When you have provided a straw filled box with the hen's name on it in which she should deposit her eggs, why should she persist in leaving them under the barn, where you cannot get them? If ten per cent. of the eggs which are never found could be secured it would immediately increase the output two million dozens of eggs a year and give us all an extra egg for breakfast.

Some hens lay one hundred while others lay two hundred or more eggs a year. Why should we not fix by law the number to be laid per hen at two hundred, so, like the two-cents-a-mile railway fare, we will have uniformity!

### Some Advice from Mr. Vail

"The young man entering life must not be impatient. He must accumulate experience, he must learn the duties of his position by the actual doing before he has any value to his employer.

"The reason so many college boys fail is that they are full of theories; they think they know it all. A college course is a good thing, an excellent thing, but it must be given to the right kind of youth. Quite a number of the highest positions are filled by men who went through college, but who had no false notions as to what was required of them when they entered business. No man is worth anything until he has gone into the heat of the battle and had his theories subordinated to practice.

"The son of rich parents is handicapped in his youth. He gets no experience of doing things, and no opportunity to benefit from hard knocks such as come the other fellow's way.

"When a boy comes to ask me to put him through college I tell him it would be the worst thing that could happen to him. I say: 'You would not only have a burden of debt on your shoulders when you finished college, but you would have the additional burden of getting experience—and it is pretty hard to get experience and earn money at the same time. You can earn



money only after you have had experience."—Theodore N. Vail, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, in *American Magazine*.

### New Chief Engineer Named for Western Electric

Charles Ezra Scribner, for forty years with the Western Electric Company and its predecessor, and for many years chief engineer of the company, has, at his own request, been relieved of his executive duties and has been appointed to the position of consulting engineer.

Frank Baldwin Jewett has been appointed chief engineer, succeeding Mr. Scribner. Mr. Jewett had been assistant chief engineer.

Mr. Scribner completed his fortieth year in the service of the Western Electric Company on October 18th, and two days later he addressed a letter to President H. B. Thayer, in which he asked to be relieved of the responsibility of an executive position. President Thayer granted the request, but gave Mr. Scribner an appointment which he hoped would promise the longest continuance of Mr. Scribner's services.

In the fall of 1876 a boy from Toledo, Ohio, spent some time in the shop of the Western Electric Manufacturing Company on the third floor of the Kinzie street building, Chicago, developing a repeater. The boy was Charles Ezra Scribner. When he finished his instrument and prepared to leave, he was recalled by E. M. Barton, then head of the company, and offered a position. Mr. Barton had noticed the industry and apparent intelligence of the young man, and thought that he saw in him a "comer." The deal was completed and young Scribner was put to work for \$25 a month for the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company. After about a year the young electrician was taken over by the Western Electric, and he soon became recognized as one of the foremost engineers and foremost inventors of telephonic apparatus in the world.

Mr. Scribner's work has been principally in connection with electrical circuits employed in inter-communication, switchboards and signaling apparatus, and his designs have occupied a leading position not only in this country, but throughout the world. He developed the first multiple switchboard to be commercially used on any large scale, and it was due to this fact that the Western Electric Company became the principal manufacturer of central office equipment.

Frank B. Jewett, who succeeds Mr. Scribner as chief engineer, is well known to scientific men throughout the land, especially to telephone men. He was born in Pasadena, Calif., September 5, 1879. He was graduated from Throop Polytechnic Institute of Pasadena, Calif., in 1898 with



CHARLES E. SCRIBNER.

the degree of A. B., in electrical engineering. From 1898 until June, 1902, he was a student in the University of Chicago receiving the degree of Ph. D. in 1902. From 1901 until June, 1902, he was research assistant to Professor Michelson of the department of physics. From 1902 to 1904 Mr. Jewett was instructor in physics and electrical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In 1904 he became connected with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, and for nearly eight years had charge of transmission development work for the Bell System. While in this position



FRANK B. JEWETT.

as transmission engineer, the loading of eight-gauge circuits was perfected; phantom cables and phantom loading for open wires and cable were developed; the New York to Denver circuit and line was engineered and also the Boston to Washington underground cable. Mr. Jewett began work on the transcontinental line, retaining general charge of the transmission engineering until the line was completed.

In April, 1912, Mr. Jewett became assistant chief engineer of the Western Electric Company, having charge of development and research work.

During October last he received complimentary recognition by the National Academy of Sciences in being appointed a member of the Committee for the promotion of Industrial Research—an important part of the National Research Council which, it will be recalled, was appointed at the request of the president of the United States for the purpose of increasing the use of research in national industries, national defense and in application to various other things.

### Bonuses to Employees

Before this issue of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS reaches the reader every eligible employé of the Bell Telephone System will have received the first installment of a cash bonus to employés.

This bonus is not intended as profit sharing but is an extra payment made regardless of profits, to assist the employés in meeting the current high cost of living. It is another example of the practical consideration of the welfare of its employés which is a striking feature of the policy of the Bell System.

Employés of the Chicago Telephone Company, Wisconsin Telephone Company, Michigan State Telephone Company and The Cleveland Telephone Company, who on December 1, 1916, had been in service one year, and whose rate of pay does not exceed \$3,000 per year, will receive the equivalent of three weeks' pay. Those in the service more than three months and less than one year will receive the equivalent of two weeks' pay. Those whose rate of pay on December 1, 1916, was over \$3,000 and less than \$5,000 per annum will receive the sum of \$175, provided, however, that in no case shall the cash bonus exceed the difference between the employé's pay for twelve months, at the rate in effect December 1, 1916, and \$5,000.

Payments will be made in three installments in January, February and March, 1917.

The receivers of the Central Union Telephone Company, by permission of the court, made substantially the same arrangement as above to pay bonuses to employés except that the payment was made in full to all eligible employés shortly after the first of the year.

### Plant Men Construct Ingenious Toy Village

The plant employes of the Chicago Telephone Company were very much interested during the recent holiday season in a most unique and ingenious Christmas display at the home of A. L. Brown, inspector in the assignment division. Mr. Brown lives at 1120 North Francisco avenue. He constructed the display for his two children, Muriel, aged seven, and Edwin, aged five. His brother, who is a line-man at West office, assisted him in the work, which occupied odd hours of both of the men for several months.

The display consists of a miniature village, laid out on the floor of the living room at Mr. Brown's home. Around the village runs a railroad track, which, with its switches, sidings, etc., is about sixty feet long. The railroad is operated by electricity, taken from the regular service circuits through a combination transformer. The road is operated on the block signal principle, and automatically separated circuits are run to the semaphores, the circuit flowing through an ordinary door bell coil, so as to create a magnetic field. A small piece of iron is riveted to the arm which operates the target. When the train is in a certain block the target shows a red light. The lights for the semaphores are taken from a separate secondary circuit on the transformer.

The station is set up at the junction of the railroads, and a switch is arranged, so that the train may be thrown from the main line to a side track, the latter having an arrangement placed on the rail, which reverses the motion of the train when it reaches the end of it. When the train again reaches the main track, another tripper reverses it in a forward motion, and it continues around the track. There is a safety gate at the road crossing which lowers at the proper time and a warning bell rings while the gate is down. After the train passes the current is opened and the gate automatically raises and the bell stops ringing.

There is a miniature mountain, and on this mountain metal soldiers are placed to imitate an army on the march. The soldiers are fastened to a band, which passes over rollers, and this band in motion gives the appearance of an indefinite line of marchers. The rollers are moved by

means of a small motor operated on six volts from the transformer. On the two uppermost peaks of the mountain are wireless stations, and the wireless is in actual operation, showing a spark about one-half an inch long. A railroad bridge is placed on the outskirts of the village, old pieces of mirror being used to represent the waters underneath. The realistic effect of



TOYLAND VILLAGE.

this is enhanced by diamond dust sprinkled around, giving the appearance of snow.

The village proper consists of a number of cardboard buildings, and the sidewalks and streets are made of cardboard. There is a parkway, lighted by a number of electric lights. In one of the buildings a small toy piano is operated by a motor. The bell in the village church rings electrically. A toy organ in the church is operated by a small motor which is controlled from the switchboard. A public garage at one end of the village has open doors and an electric sign which changes colors and flashes on and off. Back of the whole is a Christmas tree with the usual decorations and seventy-two miniature lights operated on four circuits. An army camp is placed around the tree and a number of metal soldiers and horses are arranged in marching position beneath.

The toy village attracted so much attention and comment that the Selig-Tribune Weekly Motion Picture Service sent camera operators to get records of it in operation. The photograph on this page does not do justice to the "village," as it was found very difficult to take a picture on account of the fact that everything is on the floor and the wall background is very dark. Sufficient is shown, however, to indicate the general appearance of the "village."

### Chicago Telephone Company Band

We are presenting to our readers in this issue a picture of one of the popular institutions of the Chicago Telephone Company, the "Band."

On May 14, 1914, a few of the Chicago Company employes, who were musically inclined, organized the Chicago Telephone Company Band. At this time it consisted of eight members. Realizing that such an organization requires financial support, an appeal was made to the company for assistance. This appeal was not in vain and the appropriations were forthcoming.

The organization has grown until to-day it is the source of pleasure and pride, not only to its members, but to all who are familiar with its work.

E. B. Moebius was appointed director, and to him should be attributed more than to any other person or factor, the success the band has attained. He is assisted in managing the band by J. C. Williams of the Suburban plant department, who is one of the most en-

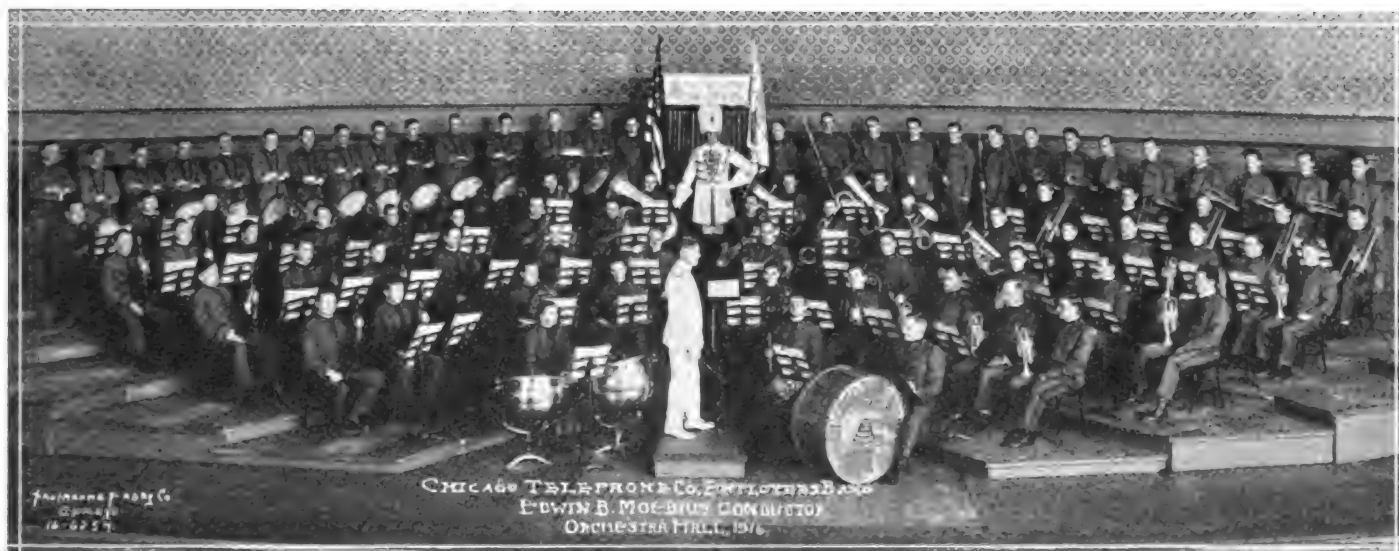
thusiastic members, also by George Guttensohm of Central office, who is chief musician of the drum and bugle corps.

Department heads have given hearty co-operation by detailing their employes whenever their services have been required for band duty.

The band now consists of sixty-five members with an affiliated drum and bugle corps of thirty-five members, organized in the fall of 1915, and has appeared at all of the company affairs where this particular class of music is desirable, and also has given public concerts in the small parks where, otherwise, no music would have been available.

A list of such engagements appeared in a recent issue of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS. During the past year the band has entertained approximately 85,000 people, not counting those who heard the boys in the parades in which they appeared.

To the individual member has been afforded a musical education, *par excellence*, and the interest taken by the members is evidenced by the big attendance at the Thursday evening rehearsals. That the Chicago Telephone Company Band is appreciated and enjoyed outside as well as within telephone circles is attested by the many testimonials from civic, religious and social organizations, together with the



CHICAGO TELEPHONE COMPANY BAND, ORCHESTRA AND DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS.

plaques and engrossments that adorn the walls in the director's office.

While practically every one is familiar with the band in parade work and at the "Phoney Phair," it is unfortunate that many have not had the opportunity of hearing the organization in the more serious compositions, where there is better opportunity to display the real talent that exists among the members. An extensive program is contemplated for the season of 1917 and it is hoped that all will avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing our own band.

To those who take an interest in music, the director, Mr. Moebius, extends a special invitation to join this organization. Every assistance is given to enable beginners to become proficient performers.

Below are a few comments selected from letters from various organizations which the Chicago Telephone Company Band has favored with concerts.

September 14, 1914.

Will you please be kind enough to extend our thanks to Mr. Moebius whom I understand is the band leader and the rest of the boys for the entertainment they furnished Saturday at Gunther Park.

I have heard nothing but favorable comments on this organization and it certainly must be very gratifying to the Chicago Telephone Company to have their own employees get up a band of this kind. We are not fortunate enough to have a band like yours but Mr. Moebius will bear me out in the statement that our crowd are a real bunch of rooters.

(Signed) R. W. CARTER,  
SWIFT & COMPANY.

October 21, 1914.

May I congratulate the members of the Chicago Telephone Company's Band for their splendid program at last Sunday's ball game?

The Chicago Telephone Company should be congratulated and you are no doubt very proud of such a credible organization.

(Signed) GENERAL MANAGER,  
BUTLER BROTHERS.

February 24, 1916.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the National Security League, I desire to extend thanks to you, and through you to the members of your band, individually and col-

lectively, for the creditable work you did on the occasion of the Preparedness parade, February 22nd.

I have heard scores of complimentary remarks concerning your organization, both from the standpoint of your being trained musicians and also upon the fine appearance that you made at the head of the parade.

To the committee's thanks I wish to add my personal congratulations and to express the sentiment that you are doing your part in coöperation with all the other departments in keeping the Chicago Telephone Company well in the front, not only figuratively but literally.

(Signed) CLIFFORD ARRICK,  
Chairman, Membership Committee.

April 7, 1916.

Our committee was very much interested in both your band and orchestra, not merely as a musical achievement, but as a social development among the employees of your company. I cannot tell you how keenly we appreciate the growing interest large corporations are taking in community music and how much we hope to be of service in securing the coöperation of these organizations in our city-wide work.

(Signed) SUPERINTENDENT,  
CIVIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO.

June 23, 1916.

At the regular monthly meeting of General A. W. Creely Camp of the United Spanish War Veterans held last night, the members elected unanimously to extend a vote of thanks and appreciation to the Chicago Telephone Company, through you and Mr. Moebius, as well as to every member of the Telephone Band, for their kindness in parading with our organization on last Memorial Day.

The memory of the good will and patriotism manifested by every one responsible for furnishing the inspiring music that lightened our steps and encouraged us in observing the day will remain with those who had the pleasure of marching behind the best band in Chicago. With sincerest appreciation, I am, respectfully,

COMMANDER.

April 6, 1916.

The concert which was given in the Armstrong School on March 31st was not only a great musical treat, but it also served the purpose of acquainting the people of this neighborhood with what one of the big, enterprising corporations of this city is doing for its employees in the way of education and entertainment and for the purpose of creating amongst them a spirit of contentment and friendly feeling.

The concert, we are happy to say, was a great success in many ways, and from those who attended we have heard nothing but praise; in fact, a great number of them have expressed their pleasure and surprise at the finished performance of the band, which contained no professional musicians but merely performers who played as a pastime and for the love of good music.

In behalf of this association we wish again to convey to you and through you to each individual member of your splendid band our great appreciation of the excellent performance so kindly given by the Chicago Telephone Company Band for the benefit of the Armstrong Neighborhood Association on March 31st.

(Signed) PRESIDENT,  
ARMSTRONG NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION.

August 25, 1916.

On behalf of the Aurora Automobile Club I want to congratulate you on the concert rendered by your band at Phillips Park, Aurora, August 24th.

It is not too much to say that the quality of music rendered by your artists is far away better than we have had the privilege to hear at any of our summer concerts.

The way your boys handle their various instruments and their rendition was in our opinion, well nigh perfect. We only hope our people will have another opportunity to hear your wonderful organization again this summer.

Again let me congratulate you on that band. It's a wonder, and you've every right to be proud of them. Good luck!

(Signed) M. K. GURTON, Secretary.

August 26, 1916.

We write to thank you for the excellent concert rendered at the City Park last evening; we can testify to the excellent ability and training of your band in the most forceful terms. The comments that were heard were many and indicated the greatest satisfaction with the entertainment by the audience. Yours very truly,

AURORA COMMERCIAL CLUB,  
By JOHN N. SMITH, President.  
JOHN M. PIFFERS, Secretary.  
WILLIAM McCULLOUGH, Chairman. of  
Committee

August 23, 1916.

Yesterday at Warrensville was the first opportunity I have had for the past several months to hear your (our) band and I was very pleased to note how good the music was.

You are to be congratulated on the quality of music which the band produces. Yours truly,

(Signed) W. E. CONRAD.

## Of Interest to Our Girls

Conducted by Mrs. F. E. Dewhurst

### 1917

"It takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place."

So Alice is told in her fascinating "Wonderland" and even the little breathing place at the end of the year, when we stop a moment to look backward and forward, must not be the occasion for lingering too long at the threshold. If we stand still we shall get pushed out of the way and instead of keeping on, we shall be losing ground.

The cover of this magazine is a splendid reminder to the girls that 1917 is giving them the opportunity for service, and all the operators must be glad that the face of Central has been allowed for once to break through the newspaper sheet with a promise of even better service in 1917. It will take some running to keep in the same place. Central says she thinks she gave pretty good service last year. So the running she did last year must go on with added enthusiasm and there isn't time even to stop to say more than a Happy New Year. It's "look forward and not backward and lend a hand."

This composite picture on the cover seems to personify the good will and the habitual good nature of all the telephone girls. Imagine how many thousands make up that one face—hardly a place now in this wide United States where the voice of Central is not heard, and she is always ready with her cheery response and her helping hand. Let us make good the message of "Central" and "try to do even better in 1917."

### Fashions

All the girls will be glad to see that the fashion hint page is restored to the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS. It gives a family appearance to the paper and shows that the girls are really a most important factor in the telephone company.

And if the girls are important it certainly is also true that it is important that they give some thought to suitable dress. Of course dress does not make the girl; but quite often the girl makes the dress and a few hints on the prevailing fashions may be of great assistance.

As a rule, the girls who are in business set a good example to other ladies in the matter of appropriate street dress. The girls who are employed in the best places in the city are conscious that appropriate dress in the offices or stores has a good deal to do with obtaining and retaining positions. If a young girl comes into a business place dressed more appropriately for home or an evening party than for the street and office, she soon sees the advantage of looking as girls do who have learned by experience and she follows suit.

A New York paper quoted the president of a great company in New York as saying to one of his stenographers that it is impossible to get good results in an office where the young ladies dress in a way to attract attention. He said:

"Kalsomined noses, elaborately puffed hair, Swiss cheese shirt-waists, abbreviated skirts and loud stockings do not conduce to the orderly and expeditious transaction of business in a big office."

Fortunately our girls have long ago assumed the business dress, and it is safe to say that there are no finer groups of appropriately dressed business girls going out from business places than are seen leaving our exchanges. We advise many of the young ladies who "neither toil or spin" to take note of the dress which is appropriate for street wear and imitate our girls.

### The Rime of the Murdered Merchant

(With apologies to the shade of Samuel Taylor Coleridge.)

All stark and cold the merchant lay,  
All cold and stark lay he.  
And who hath killed this fair merchant?  
Now tell the truth to me.

Oh, I have killed this fair merchant  
Will never again draw breath;  
Oh, I have made this fair merchant  
To come unto his death.

Oh, why hast thou killed this fair merchant  
Whose corpse I now behold?  
And why hast thou caused this man to lie  
In death all stark and cold?

Oh, I have killed this fair merchant  
Whose kith and kin make moan,  
For that he hath stolen my precious time  
When he useth the telephone.

The telephone bell rang full and clear;  
The receiver did I seize.  
"Hello!" quoth I, and quoth a girl,  
"Hello! . . . One moment, please."

I waited moments ane and twa,  
And moments three and four,  
And then I sought that fair merchant  
And spilled his selfish gore.

That business man who scorneth to waste  
His moments so rich and fine  
In calling a man to the telephone  
Shall never again waste mine!

And every time a henchwoman  
Shall cause me a moment's loss,  
I'll forthwith fare to that office  
And stab to death her boss.

Rise up! Rise up! thou blessed knight!  
And off thy bended knees!

Go forth and slay all folk who make  
Us wait "One moment, please."

—F. P. A., in *New York Tribune*.

### Routine in Rhyme

Take the trunk up, take the circuit, split  
the cords and ring,  
While you're waiting write your number  
first of everything.  
When she answers, say, "Main two-six  
calling three-o-nine?"  
Write your passed time on the ticket, stay  
in on the line.

When the distant party answers "Swift  
and Company,"  
"Chicago's calling Mr. Johnson." "All  
right, this is he."  
Please hold the line," you tell the man,  
connect the cords and ring,  
Take up the trunk on a new call—"Ready  
with Lansing."

When they start their conversation, stamp  
your ticket straight,  
Just back of the calculagraph you place it  
and wait.  
Disconnect appears, you listen, stamp and  
challenge, too,  
Say, "Chicago, are you waiting? (pause  
here) Are you through?"

Release the circuit and the trunk before  
you fix your keys,  
But oh! don't take them down entirely,  
students, if you please.

—*Long Lines Traffic Doings*.

### Mammy Liked the Stove

A Georgia woman who had moved to Cleveland found that she could not be contented without the colored mammy who had been her servant for many years. She sent for mammy, who arrived on the very day that her mistress had to leave town.

Before departing, the lady only had time to explain to mammy some of the modern conveniences with which her apartment was furnished.

The gas stove interested the colored woman most. After the mistress of the house had lighted the oven, the broiler and the other burners, and felt certain that the old servant understood the stove, she hurried for her train.

She was absent two weeks, and on her return one of her first questions to mammy was how she had got along.

"I got along fine, Miss Flo'ence; didn't have no trouble at all," was the reply. "And dat air gas stove—my! my! dat's sho' de bes' stove dey is made. Why, do you know, Miss Flo'ence, dat fire you lighted ain't gone out yit!"—*Exchange*.



# DIGNITY AND DISTINCTION IN SIMPLE DESIGNS

*Slip-On Dresses Threaten Prestige of Separate Blouses and Skirts — Contrast in Material Instead of Color a New Fashion Note*



*Attractive dresses of the slip-on type which are seriously threatening the vogue of the separate waist and skirt. The first design in checked cloth and satin features the overdress effect and shawl collar. Suitable for dressy wear is the second model of crêpe Georgette trimmed with a collar of satin and vest of chiffon, not omitting the rope silk stitching. Velvet and satin or cloth or taffeta may be combined in the third frock, effective details of which are the pockets, collar and enamel leather belt.*

## Some Recent Accidents Reported

### CAUSE.

¶ Employé was repairing rheostat on rear of power board. A machinist's hammer which he had in his right hand came in contact with lug on 220-volt main lead and frame work on fuse board which is grounded, causing a flash which struck left arm burning same.

¶ While drilling hole in brick on outside of building with combination star drill for expansion bolt, particle of steel lodged in left eye.

¶ In entering basement to secure his wire, employé bumped into a 2x4 cross-beam causing a cut on left cheek bone, and also over the bridge of his nose. (The basement was not dark.)

¶ Walking past building which was being wrecked, stepped on nail, which penetrated his shoe and foot.

¶ Was installing a telephone and while standing on a step-ladder running a wire along the moulding, the step-ladder broke.

¶ While a paraffine pot was being handed up to splicer, who was standing on a box, the pot hit a cable and tipped and the paraffine spilled, badly burning the left hand of the man who had lifted up the pot.

¶ While regulating a kerosene blow torch, it exploded.

¶ He was going up a pole with a pail of lock rings and the cable car; he hung the cable car on the messenger and was holding on the crossarm with his right hand and he lost his balance and fell about 24 ft. to the ground.

¶ While carrying a piece of conduit he stepped on a brick which was lying in the pole yard, turned his ankle, causing a sprain in right ankle.

¶ Stepped on a nail in a board left by supplier, whose employé had opened up crates on our premises.

¶ In attempting to shift a belt on a drill press by hand his third finger was caught between the belt and the shaft, crushing finger.

### WHAT WOULD HAVE PREVENTED IT.

¶ In this particular case, the employé should have removed the rheostat before attempting to repair it. It is dangerous to work around live bus bars, etc., and when it is absolutely necessary to do so, extreme care must be taken.

¶ The use of goggles would have prevented this accident.

¶ It would seem that the remedy in this case would be a little more care on the part of the individual.

¶ Another case of where personal care on the part of the individual would have prevented the accident. When it is necessary to walk around buildings that are being wrecked, the very condition of the building should warn us to be extremely careful.

¶ Step-ladders have proved themselves to be treacherous and they should not be used without first being looked over to see whether they are strong enough to bear the weight and without an attempt at minor repairs if they are not in good condition. If they cannot be made safe, they should not be used.

¶ This is another case in which personal care would have prevented the accident.

¶ What actually happened is that there was a leak in the supply pipe and the splicer used a pair of pliers to tighten up the nut and stop the leak. In doing so, the joint was broken allowing the kerosene under pressure to come out and become ignited. A leaky torch is unsafe and should not be used and if it is absolutely necessary to attempt to repair it by tightening up connections, the flame should first be extinguished.

¶ This accident would have been prevented if he had used a hand line. It is always dangerous to attempt to climb a pole or ladder while carrying something—both hands are needed in climbing.

¶ As this occurred in the day time, surely the brick could have been seen and avoided.

¶ In this case the employé of the supplier should not have left the boards with nails protruding lying around in this manner, but it is also true that the injured person and others unquestionably saw the condition and should have removed the boards to one side.

¶ Belts should never be shifted by hand and if a belt shifter is not available, a stick or some similar article should be used.



## A New Year's Resolution

---

WHEREAS, I realize that I owe to my family, the Company and myself my best efforts to secure the greatest results possible from the Safety Movement; THEREFORE, I HEREBY RESOLVE:

That I will use all safety devices provided and will call the attention of a fellow workman to his failure to use them.

That I will turn down or remove all upstanding nails and spikes.

That I will be careful in handling material and see that it is kept out of aisles or passageways.

That I will call attention to dangerously worn or otherwise defective chains or hooks, ladders or rickety scaffolds.

That I will wear goggles when doing work where I am liable to eye injury from dirt, flying chips, etc.

That I will do everything possible to promote Safety.

# Poles

FROM THE  
**Stump**  
TO THE  
**Line**

Largest Stocks  
Finest Quality  
Promptest Shipments  
Yards from Maine  
to Washington

**National Pole  
Company**

Escanaba, Michigan

When you want a Lock  
you want the best.

**EAGLE  
LOCK  
CO.**

MANUFACTURERS OF

**LOCKS**

for all purposes.

**WOOD SCREWS**

Factories  
TERRYVILLE, CONN.

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NEW YORK  
CHICAGO  
PHILADELPHIA

**The Pittsburgh Shovel Co.**  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Manufacturers of

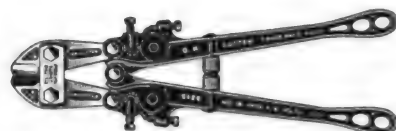
**SHOVELS  
SPADES  
SCOOPS**

All Styles for Every Class of Work. Our High Grades Fully Warranted

**Telegraph Shovels and Spoons a Distinctive Specialty**

WRITE FOR PRICES  
Suite 1832 Oliver Building, PITTSBURGH

Trade  
**O. K.**  
Mark  
**CUTTERS**



**10-Inch** Clipper Cut Jaws, for 3-16-in. annealed bolts in the thread, or 3-16-in. soft rivets.  
**Center Cut Jaws**, for 3-16-in. soft rods.  
**14-Inch** Clipper Cut Jaws, for 1-4-in. annealed bolts in the thread, or 1-4-in. soft rivets.  
**Center Cut Jaws**, for 1-4-in. soft rods.

Insulated Handles if desired.

**H. K. PORTER, EVERETT MASS.**

"Easy," "New Easy" and Allen Randall Bolt Clippers

## NATIONAL

### Double Tube Copper Connectors

are accurately made. They give less trouble and longer service than other types.



National Signifies Quality in Connectors.

**National Telephone Supply Company**  
2032 Superior Avenue CLEVELAND, OHIO

### BE PREPARED FOR THE WINTER'S RUSH



No. 17 Qt. Torch, Patented

Don't let the cold weather find you without enough torches and furnaces to take care of all those odd jobs. Therefore, order now so that you are prepared. When ordering buy only the best. If you never used the "Always Reliable," place your order for this make now. They are the most practical and do not cost any more than the others. Your jobber will supply at factory prices. Catalog Free on Request  
**OTTO BERNZ, Newark, N. J.**

### "AMERICAN" Bituminized Fiber Conduit

provides a practical, permanent and economical underground protective receptacle for your telephone cables.

Write for literature

**AMERICAN  
CONDUIT COMPANY**  
East Chicago, Ind.  
140 Nassau St., New York

**ELECTROSE**  
TRADE MARK  
INSULATION  
MADE IN AMERICA

INSULATORS 1,000 TO 1,000,000 VOLTS  
LOUIS STEINBERGER'S PATENTS

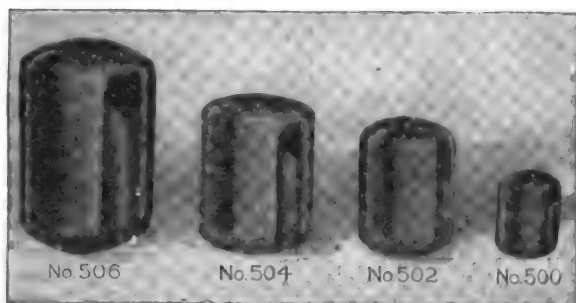
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ALSO FOR SALE BY  
**Western Electric Company Ltd.**  
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Use a  
**VLCHEK  
VALVE  
LIFTER**  
when  
Repairing  
Your  
Car

**The Vlchek Tool Co.**  
Cleveland, Ohio

**ADVERTISING**  
in the  
**Bell Telephone  
News**  
**BRINGS  
RESULTS**





## Thomas Guy Strain Insulators

The severe service to which guy strain insulators are subjected requires the best. Thomas guy strain insulators have been giving satisfaction for many years.

Manufactured by

**The R. Thomas & Sons Co.**  
EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

Distributed by

**Western Electric Company**  
INCORPORATED

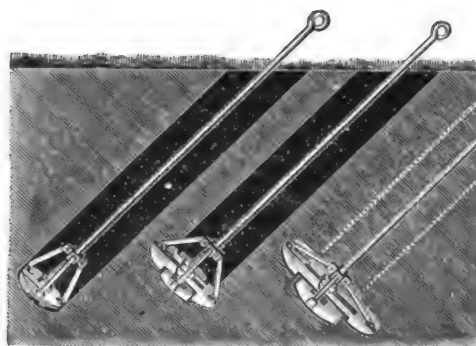
Offices in all principal cities.

## EVERSTICK ANCHORS

are used by every Bell Telephone Co. in the United States except one. We feel this one has made a mistake. Lighting Companies and Electric Railway Companies not using Everstick Anchors have also made a like mistake, for there is but one best Anchor.

## THE EVERSTICK ANCHOR CO.

ST. LOUIS, MO.



1 2 3

Fig. 1—Represents Anchor Placed at bottom of hole.  
Fig. 2—Partially Expanded. Fig. 3—Fully Expanded.

## TELEPHONE WIRE

We Guarantee  
Greatest Efficiency  
Longest Life  
Most Satisfactory Service  
Lowest Cost of Up-keep  
In the Use of our wire.



Write for **FREE SAMPLE**  
Make Test and Comparison



Approved by Leading Institutions of Technology and Telephonic Science. Handled by most representative Jobbers and Supply Houses.

**Indiana Steel & Wire Co.**  
Muncie, Indiana

## DIAMOND CRIMPER

For Securely Crimping Aerial Rings  
to Suspension Strands



### Enormous Power

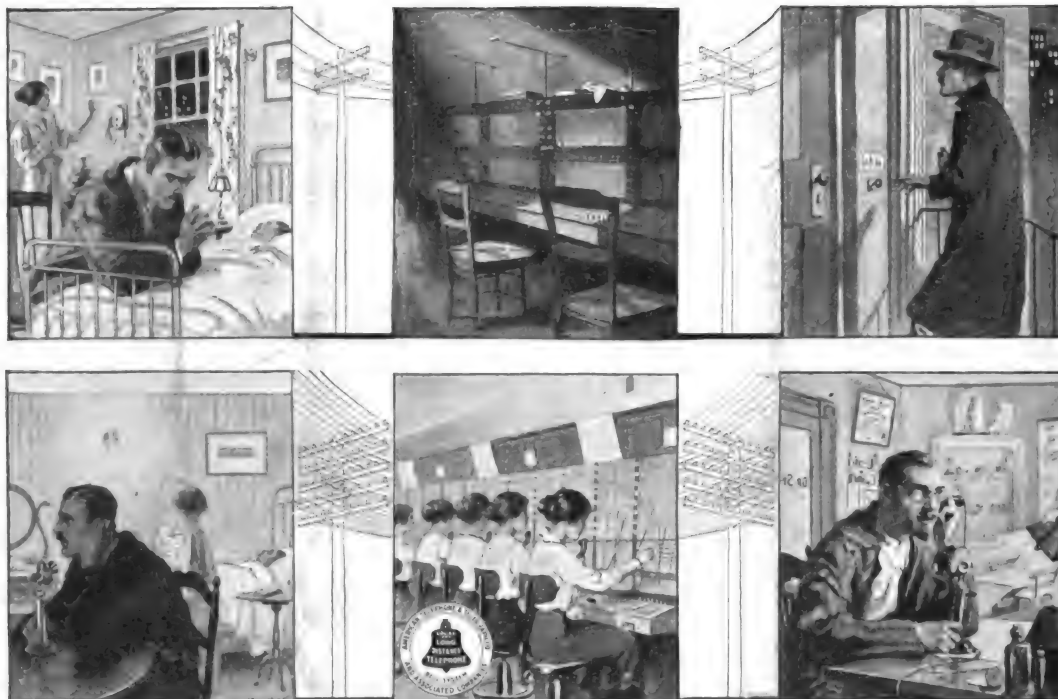
Convenience in operation is one of the principal points considered in the design of this tool.

Each tool furnished with three sets of case hardened jaws to suit different diameters of messenger strand.

**Diamond Expansion Bolt Company**

Manufacturers of Diamond Specialties

90 West Street, Cor. Cedar, New York City



## Best and Cheapest Service in the World

Here are some comparisons of telephone conditions in Europe and the United States just before the war.

### *Here we have:*

Continuous service in practically all exchanges, so that the telephone is available day and night.

A telephone to one person in ten.

3,000,000 miles of interurban or long-distance wires.

Prompt connections, the speed of answer in principal cities averaging about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  seconds.

Lines provided to give immediate toll and long-distance service.

As to cost, long-distance service such as we have here was not to be had in Europe, even before the war, at any price. And exchange service in Europe, despite its inferior quality, cost more in actual money than here.

Bell Service is the criterion for all the world, and the Bell organization is the most economical as well as the most efficient servant of the people.

### *In Europe:*

Nine-tenths of the exchanges are closed at night, and in many cases, at mealtime.

Not one person in a hundred has a telephone.

Not one-eighth as many miles in proportion to population and territory.

In the principal cities, it takes more than twice as long for the operator to answer.

No such provision made. Telephone users are expected to await their turn.

**AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY  
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES**

*One Policy*

*One System*

*Universal Service*

# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

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# Bell Telephones

AND CONNECTIONS

## In the Territory of the Central Group of Companies

JANUARY 1, 1917

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Connected</u>	<u>Total</u>
ILLINOIS	645,613	282,512	928,125
OHIO	237,217	225,061	462,278
INDIANA	112,903	220,010	332,913
MICHIGAN	255,963	84,057	340,020
WISCONSIN	<u>169,616</u>	<u>148,521</u>	<u>318,137</u>
	1,421,312	960,161	2,381,473



# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

ONE POLICY

UNIVERSAL SERVICE

ONE SYSTEM

Volume 6

DETROIT, MICH., FEBRUARY, 1917

Number 7

## The Month in Michigan

News Notes and Personal Items of Interest

Julius H. Moeller, Correspondent, Detroit

### Detroit District

Miss Elsie Hager, former operator at the Grand office, and a sister of the Misses Ida Hager and Rose Erickson, died December 30th after a lingering illness. Employees of the Grand office extend sincere sympathy to the bereaved mother and sisters.

Miss Alice Callsen entertained a party of long-distance operators January 16th, honoring Miss Myra Buetler, who left the following Sunday for Wisconsin. It was of the nature of a children's party and the various people present had a fine time indulging in childish pranks. Later, pedro was the form of entertainment, with suitable prizes for the winners.

Miss Olson, evening chief operator at Hemlock, has been transferred to North exchange as evening chief operator, succeeding Mrs. Abraham, who is now at Walnut.

Miss McGee, North chief operator, held a supervisors' meeting last month. Several changes were made and other business transacted. During the meeting Mrs. Davenport, principal of the New Jersey Training School for Operators, a woman well posted on telephone affairs, came in and later talked to the girls in an interesting way.

Mr. Richardson, assistant traffic chief with Mr. Johnson, is back on duty after a month's leave of absence.

The Girls' Social Club had a hard-times party January 12th at the Y. M. O. Hall, where the club holds its regular meetings. There was a full attendance of members, all of whom came arrayed in grotesque costume. Members connected with the traffic department were in charge of the meeting. A variety of games were played, the most interesting of which was "upsetting the fruit basket." Dancing followed. Girls from the accounting department were in charge of the serving of refreshments. On February 9th the club gave an informal dancing party, an account of which will appear in the next issue of the News.

Claude Murray, who was toll traffic chief until illness compelled him to abandon all work last spring, is much improved and

again able to be out. Early in January he began to report for a few hours' work daily, but it seemed advisable to postpone such efforts for a while longer. His many friends are glad to see his long siege of sickness drawing to a close and will welcome him back into the ranks of active employes.

### Eastern District

Employees of the Pontiac exchange furnished Christmas dinners to seventeen dependent families or seventy-seven people in all, who had been recommended by the Pontiac Associated Charities. The young ladies of the traffic department had charge of these gifts and each of the seventeen baskets was filled to the brim with good things to eat—chicken, sweet potatoes, celery, cranberries, can of corn or peas, canned fruit, oranges, jello and a stocking filled with candy, popcorn and nuts. The baskets were decorated with holly and crepe paper in Christmas colors with crepe paper bows on the handles, making indeed a very pretty package. The baskets were delivered by a committee of four young ladies with an automobile, and it surely was a beautiful sight on Sunday morning, December 24th, to see this load of good cheer leaving the telephone office in a beautiful Christmas snowstorm.

### Our Front Cover

The front cover design of this issue of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS shows a typical Bell public telephone station such as may be found in all first-class hotels, railroad stations and other public places. The photograph was taken in the lobby of the Hotel Pfister in Milwaukee and shows a pay station of the Wisconsin Telephone Company. The Hotel Pfister station, which is one of the busiest in Milwaukee, was especially designed, not alone for convenience, but also to harmonize with the massive and beautiful interior of which it is a part.

Cupid entered the Chelsea exchange on December 2d and very quietly persuaded Miss Olive Nelson, operator, and Frank Wolff, lineman, to take a trip to Ann Arbor. Here arrangements had been made for Miss Nelson and Mr. Wolff to become husband and wife. After a short trip, Mr. and Mrs. Wolff returned to Chelsea, where they will reside.

Miss Matilda Livingston, assistant toll instructor at Little Rock, Ark., has been transferred to Pontiac as toll supervisor.

Miss Regina Eppler has accepted the position of relief operator at Chelsea.

### Grand Rapids District

Stephen Pierce, commercial agent at Grand Rapids, is next to join the "ranks" of married men. He was married January 9th to Miss Elizabeth Schopps.

John Locks, former employe at Grand Rapids, has returned to the commercial office to fill the position of chief collector, made vacant by the resignation of P. C. Kieft.

Miss Hazel Fisher, toll operator at Grand Haven, entertained the operators with a Christmas party at her home on Columbus street. A well-loaded Christmas tree and old Santa to distribute the gifts were features of the evening.

Mrs. Mabel Price, formerly Mabel Kintz, supervisor at the Grand Rapids Main office, died December 17th at her home in Liberty Center, Ohio.

Miss Gladys Clement, operator at the Grand Rapids South office, resigned to be married to W. Vande Water January 16th. A miscellaneous shower was given by the operators at the South office.

### Jackson District

Operators at the Jackson exchange had a very enjoyable Christmas party with a Christmas tree, Santa Claus, presents and all other necessary trimmings Friday evening before Christmas. Rodney Weeks, manager, played the rôle of Santa in a very creditable manner, although not possessing the proportions usually attributed to that personage. Each operator received a gift, as everybody present had contrib-

uted something of value not in excess of ten cents. The party did not break up until it was time for the merrymakers to scatter in order to catch the "owl" car, which starts on its outbound trip at eleven o'clock. The plant department employes, not to be outdone by the members of the traffic force, had a little party all their own Saturday night before New Year's. Charles Rountree gave an exhibition that put him in a class with "white hopes." Mr. Kaufman, Frank Seahill and Dave Foley also took a prominent part in the "stunts" which made the evening a merry one. The boys all had a wonderful time and decided that it would be quite the thing to meet on such occasions more frequently.

The Battle Creek operators have maintained a fund for several years upon which they drew from time to time to provide flowers for the sick, and for other similar purposes. Inasmuch as recent regulations adopted by the traffic department put the collection of such funds under the ban, the girls decided to abolish the fund by using the amount on hand for a royal entertainment for themselves and friends. Thursday night before Christmas they hired Macabee Hall and provided cards, dancing and other amusements for the evening's program. The Misses Lizzie Franz and Clara Neubaum favored those present with a recitation.



OPERATORS' CHRISTMAS TREE AT JACKSON.  
Miss Cora Bartlett, Chief Operator, and J. Rodney Weeks, Manager.

Fred A. Warblow has been transferred to the Athens exchange, Calhoun County. He was toll repairman at Jackson before making the change.

Mr. Black, manager of the Post Theatre of Battle Creek, entertained fifty operators recently at a performance of "The Little Girl Next Door." To show that Mr. Black was not the only kind-hearted gentleman in Battle Creek, the Kellogg Corn Flakes

Company donated to each girl a box of "Karamels." Mr. Black also entertained ten of the supervisors at "Intolerance" at a later date.

The wanderlust has struck the Battle Creek office. Miss Bernice Fowle, a toll supervisor, went a-visiting at Jackson and stopped to look over the local exchange there. She did not call on the News correspondent and so more details of the visit could not be recorded. Also, Miss Daisy Macey looked over the Detroit exchange while visiting there.

Russell Hunter, who was chief clerk at Battle Creek until about one year ago, died at Twin Bridges, Mont., during the latter part of December. Mr. Hunter had been with the Battle Creek office for the past five years and his genial, happy nature made him very popular with all who came in contact with him. Mr. Hunter resigned his work at the exchange, thinking the rest would prove a cure; but as he did not make the progress that was thought

necessary, the doctors advised him to go to Montana. He went there some six months before his death, and the climate appeared to help him wonderfully. He was planning to return home when he suffered a hemorrhage of the lungs which resulted in his death. He was twenty-five years old.

There is a great mystery at the Battle Creek exchange. It seems that at the Christmas tree celebration recently held,



OPERATORS' CHRISTMAS PARTY AT BATTLE CREEK.



HOLIDAY PARTY AT JACKSON.

Miss Marion Walterhouse received a diamond ring, which, according to authorities on the subject, means "lots of things." The mystery is, who gave the ring? Why was it given? When is the fatal day? Miss Walterhouse says that "she knows absolutely nothing about the whole incident."

A sleet storm which swept the vicinity of Jackson on December 26th caused a great deal of scattered damage and kept the plant forces busy for several days during bitter winter weather. Seventeen crossarms were down between Jackson and Hudson. Four poles west of Grass Lake were broken off. Fourteen wires were broken between Grass Lake and Chelsea. Several wires were down on the Lasing lead.

### Kalamazoo District

On Thursday evening, December 14, 1916, Mrs. Charles Basso, née Ball, formerly an operator at the Niles exchange, entertained the girls of the exchange at her pretty new home. Games and contests helped to pass the evening pleasantly and at a late hour the guests were invited to the dining room, where an elaborate three-course supper was served. The girls presented Mrs. Basso with a set of salad forks as a wedding present.

Misses Emma Peters and Hazel Wood entertained the girls of the Niles exchange on the evening of December 30th at the home of the latter. Games and contests furnished the entertainment for the evening; the prizes being won by Mrs. Hib-

bard, the Misses Whiteman, Couch and Loane. The house was artistically decorated in keeping with the holiday season. The girls took this occasion to surprise Miss Peters, at her own party, with a kitchen shower, as she had resigned to be married. A splendid three-course dinner was served, a tiny Christmas tree forming the center piece for the table.

On Saturday evening, December 23d, the employés of the Niles exchange had a party and Christmas tree at the office. Much merriment was found in distributing the Christmas gifts to each employé. During the little program that was given by different members of the force, Mrs. Hibbard rendered several musical selections. Miss Swintz, district traffic supervisor, was the guest of the evening.

Miss Christina E. Zahl, local operator at Watervliet exchange, has resigned to accept a position with the Watervliet Paper Company. Miss Mary Bellenger of Bainbridge has accepted a position as operator at Watervliet.

Marie M. Sternaman has resumed her duties as operator at Watervliet after an illness of three months.

Mrs. C. E. Vanderhoof, chief operator at Watervliet, enjoyed her vacation during the holidays visiting Berrien Springs, Eau Claire and Benton Harbor exchanges.

Miss Mary E. Wright, chief operator at Coloma, is on a leave of absence. Miss Esther L. Herbster is acting as chief operator at Coloma during Miss Wright's absence.

Gertrude E. Crumb has accepted a position as local operator during the forced absence of Miss Keigley.

Miss Nellie Vandeberg, clerk in the commercial department at Kalamazoo, has resigned her position and will soon leave for New York City, where she will go into training for the duties of a nurse at the Post Graduate Hospital.

On New Year's Eve the supervisors of the Kalamazoo exchange enjoyed a good time at a progressive party. A dinner of three courses was served by the Misses Edna Shaug, Florence Sliss and Marie Conklin. Following these courses the girls reported at the office at 11:30 and worked until 12:30, each supervisor receiving a very pretty gift for her work. Then resuming the festivities at the party, the remaining courses were served by Misses Anna Besterfelt, Elizabeth Moreland and Mrs. Vande Giessen, a former local operator.

Miss Trevena Lewis, local operator at Kalamazoo, is spending a month in Omaha, Neb.

Miss Ethel Gerry, who has been on a leave of absence on account of illness, has resumed her duties as local operator at Kalamazoo.

Installer B. B. Thomas has just completed the installation of two No. 505 seven by three cordless private exchange switchboards. One was installed at the Papermaker's Chemical Company and the other at the Star Paper Company.

Mentor J. Housel has accepted a position as local repairman at Kalamazoo. He

M—

was formerly repairman for the Michigan Railway Company.

C. C. Johnson, lineman at Kalamazoo, has just finished a complete patrol of all the farm lines out of Scotts exchange.

Archie Clark, farm-line repairman at Kalamazoo, has been appointed manager at Eau Claire, succeeding W. A. Badour, resigned.

Miss Ertie Ludlum, operator at St. Joseph, was married December 11th to John A. Kieft of Benton Harbor. Miss Ludlum has been in the employ of the telephone company for the last few months and has made numerous friends among the employes since that time. Mr. and Mrs. Kieft will be at home at Benton Harbor after a short wedding trip.

C. N. Rowley and E. F. Riddle of the central engineering department have been at Benton Harbor and St. Joseph preparing to make a new fundamental study made necessary by the extraordinary growth at both of these exchanges.

Much enthusiasm is shown among the members of the bowling league, which consists of representatives of six manufacturers. The telephone company's team is in second place and the season is nearly half over. James Fitzgerald, foreman, was recently elected captain of the team.

W. A. Badour, manager of Eau Claire exchange, resigned in December to accept a position with the electrical department of the Buick Motor Company at Flint. Mr. and Mrs. Badour have moved to Flint. Mr. Badour was employed with the Michigan State Telephone Company as troubleman at St. Joseph and manager at Otsego before going to Eau Claire.

Stewart O. Brink of the construction department and Miss Bethel Sprague of Plymouth, Mich., were married at the home of the bride on January 11th. Miss Sprague was formerly an operator at the Jackson exchange and has recently been employed at the Plymouth exchange. Mr. Brink is at present located at Benton Harbor and expects to be there for several months.

Steve O'Brien spent the holidays with friends at Yale, Mich. On his return he reported a very pleasant visit. Mr. O'Brien is now located at Benton Harbor as rackman of the construction department.

Manager Stevens of Benton Harbor enjoyed a ten days' vacation during the holidays at his former home, Jackson, Mich.

On Wednesday, November 29th, the supervisors of the Kalamazoo exchange enjoyed a six o'clock dinner, after which a supervisors' meeting was held and the remainder of the evening was spent in sewing. The following young ladies were present: Chloe Herrick, Myrtle Nelson, Marie Conklin, Helen Griffith, Elizabeth Moreland, Belle Wheeler, Lulu Boekhout, Anna Bestervelt, Florence Sliss and Edna Shaug.

### Lansing District

Miss Dena Dunsmore, operator at Mason, resigned December 1st. Miss Dunsmore is succeeded by Miss Anna Darrow.

Miss Daurice Silvernail, operator at Owosso, resigned to accept a position as bookkeeper at Kingston, Mich. Miss Rena Elliott succeeds Miss Silvernail.

Miss Lillian Grumbly, operator at Owosso, resigned December 16th. Miss Grumbly has gone to Alberta, Canada, to make her home.

The new section of toll switchboard for Owosso has arrived and is being installed by William J. Fisher of the equipment department, Detroit. Flash-light trunks are being installed on all sections, which will greatly facilitate the supervision of calls. When the installation is completed the Owosso office will be in good shape to handle the toll business which in the past few months has shown an extraordinary increase.

The Ovid-Mutual Telephone Company, a connecting company, has moved into its new office quarters. Manager Jarvis says that they will be in much better shape to take care of constantly growing business.

The Christmas season at the Owosso exchange passed with a record-breaking toll business. The operators received numerous gifts of candy and fruit from satisfied subscribers.

The operators at Charlotte had their Christmas tree and party December 23rd. Each operator received several useful gifts and all reported a good time.

Miss Gladys Ells has resigned her position as chief operator at Charlotte to accept a position in the First National Bank. Miss Nellie Barber, formerly chief operator, but later clerk, has again accepted the position of chief operator. Miss Loretta Stogdell has taken the clerk's position and Miss Ruth Howe has taken Miss Stogdell's position as operator.

The employees of the Michigan State Telephone Company at Eaton Rapids were royally entertained Friday evening, December 22nd, at a Christmas party at the home of the manager, P. T. Mitchell. The house was beautifully decorated with Christmas colors and a Santa Claus and Christmas tree furnished the entertainment for the earlier part of the evening, after which a sumptuous dinner was served. Music and dancing were then enjoyed until the chimes of midnight rang out.

James R. Burnett, manager of the Dimondale exchange, and Miss Clara Rinkle of Lansing were recently married.

The Dimondale office moved January 4th into a new building which was especially built for telephone purposes.

I. V. Conrad succeeds Orlo Rector as manager at Bellevue. Mr. Rector was transferred to the plant department at Lansing.

Mrs. Lena Belle Conrad has accepted a position as chief operator at Bellevue.

Mrs. Floy Hopkins, cashier at the Lansing exchange, resigned December 26th.

Ed. Collier has been transferred to the construction department at Detroit. Mr. Collier was formerly city foreman at the Lansing exchange. J. Cunningham of Detroit has succeeded Mr. Collier.

Charles Henika, night switchboardman at Lansing, spent the Christmas holidays with his parents at Petoskey, Mich.

The latest development in an amusement way is listening to a theatrical performance by telephone. A well-known business man in Lansing has arranged for a private wire running from the Bijou theater to the bedroom of his daughter, who is ill, in order that she might listen while she is confined to her bed.

Archie Coates, private branch exchange repairman at Lansing, spent a week in Chicago recently. While there he visited the Chicago Telephone Company.

Mrs. Julia A. Lampman, of Lansing, who for the past twenty years has been unable to speak above a whisper, two years ago had a telephone installed in her residence, and has frequently talked to Davenport, Iowa; Chicago, Ill., and Kalamazoo, Michigan. Mrs. Lampman's son, Roy Lampman, is assistant engineer with the receivers of the Central Union Telephone Company.

An attended pay station has been installed at the Capitol building for use during the session of the legislature.

Karl Shultes, commercial agent at Lansing exchange, spent the Christmas holidays at his home at Martin, Mich.

Miss Bernice Gilleo, toll chief operator at Lansing, spent the Christmas holidays with her parents at Grand Rapids, Mich.

John A. Holman, manager at Lansing, and family, spent the Christmas holidays at Flint, Mich.

Leona Crostic, chief operator at Lansing, spent a week's vacation at Detroit with her sister, Mrs. B. F. Herman.

### Marquette District

The operators of the Marquette exchange held an operators' meeting followed by a peanut party in the exchange retiring room on the evening of January 10th. The topic of discussion was "supervision." The first game was carrying peanuts on the blade of a knife from one end of the room to the other. The one who carried the most peanuts in three turns won. Eva Derocher took first prize and Ada Anthony booby prize. After this there was a peanut stab at which Patricia McGann succeeded in stabbing the most peanuts and won first prize, with Della Havican winning booby. Fruit and candy were served during the evening.

Cupid has been busy at Ironwood. Five of the operators have been wearing diamonds since the holidays.

Miss Elizabeth Toomey, toll operator at Ironwood, resigned January 15th on ac-



count of illness of her aunt. She left the city the following day to accompany her aunt to Rochester and upon her return is to be married.

Della Havican, local operator at Marquette exchange, resigned January 21st to complete senior year at high school. Miss Havican's position is filled by Miss Ruth Danielson.

Misses Carmela Romano, Elizabeth Lauzon and Bessie Cronin, operators of the Ironwood exchange, were guests of Miss Amelia Perror at a house party given at her home on the evening of January 14th.

Toll repairs between Marquette and Nestoria were completed January 10th.

O. Oakland and crew started work between Lathrop and Negaunee January 11th.

A new No. 1 private branch exchange has been installed for Cleveland Cliffs Wood department.

The Pioneer Iron Company has installed in its office in Marquette a private branch exchange consisting of two trunks and six stations.

Miss Ruth Miller, operator of the Marquette exchange, resigned January 1st to go to Detroit, where she expects to take up telephone work.

Miss Wanda Wroblewski, toll operator at Marquette, spent New Year's at her home in Calumet.

Miss Eva Derocher, local operator at Marquette, enjoyed the holidays visiting in Detroit.

Miss Patricia McGann and Della Havican of the Marquette exchange with a party of their friends, spent New Year's Day at the Harris camp at Lakewood. The girls report a most enjoyable time.

Miss L. Milward Moyle, operator at Marquette, entertained about thirty of her friends, including the operators of the Marquette exchange, Tuesday evening, January 2nd, at her home. Three fortune-telling booths were a most interesting feature. These were thronged all evening and apparently little sympathy given the fortune tellers. Hyna's orchestra furnished music from 10 p. m. to 1 a. m. and during this time many of the guests danced. Refreshments were served and the party continued into the wee hours of the morning.

The operators of the Calumet exchange enjoyed a sleigh ride party to Lake Linden and Houghton Thursday evening, January 4th. Supper was served at the Douglas House, Houghton, just before the return to Calumet.

Agnes Crowley, operator at Calumet, resigned January 1st to take up training at Mercy Hospital, Muskegon.

Sleet put about 105 lines out of order, or approximately 300 telephones in Calumet on December 26th. By evening of the same day all trouble but thirteen lines was cleared.

### Petoskey District

Miss Mabel Parrish, traffic supervisor of the Petoskey District, has recently been transferred to Ann Arbor as chief operator. Miss Parrish has been very popular with the traffic forces of the various ex-



MISS MABEL PARRISH.



MISS JESSIE LENSEN.

changes in the district and it is with regret that the employees see her leave. On January 6th the Petoskey traffic employees gave a party of which Miss Parrish was the guest of honor.

Miss Jessie Lensen, who is to succeed Miss Parrish as traffic supervisor of the Petoskey District, spent four weeks in Detroit for a course in training in local and toll sections and in the traffic offices. Miss Parrish accompanied Miss Lensen to Detroit on her way to Ann Arbor.

The bookkeeper and four operators of the Charlevoix exchange belonged to the "Christmas Savings Fund," and on December 11th they received their checks, amounting to \$90—nice Christmas savings for Charlevoix.

Mrs. Alvina Wakeman, night operator at Charlevoix, entertained the operators December 22nd, and had a Christmas tree, which was decorated and lighted for the occasion. Gifts were exchanged.

The Charlevoix exchange had a subscriber call the information operator and ask, "What is the Fifth Commandment?" Of course information knew.

Miss Winifred V. Shores of the Charlevoix exchange spent her vacation at Rhinlander, Wis.

Miss Georgia L. Todd of the Charlevoix exchange spent her vacation at Grand Rapids, Mich.

Orange Hinds, night operator at the Kalkaska exchange, has been transferred to the district office as helper to the district cableman. Miss Bertha Pierce will fill the position of night operator.

Miss Elva Robinson, operator No. 2 at Mancelona, resigned to take up a commercial course at Ferris Institute at Big Rapids, Mich.

Miss Velma MacDonald resigned her position as operator at the Kalkaska office December 23rd and was married on December 25th to Karl Smith of Detroit, where they will make their future home.

Miss Gertrude Jenkins has been transferred from relief operator to regular operator, taking Miss MacDonald's position. Miss Bertha Pierce has been employed as relief operator.

The Farmers Mutual Telephone Company of Kingsley, Mich., recently installed Ernest Sprague as manager. Under the new management the exchange is making rapid strides in the number of subscribers and improved service. During the past thirty days, through Mr. Sprague's efforts, about twenty-five additional subscribers have been connected to the exchange and on account of the improvement in service many more are contemplating the installation of telephones. There is no doubt but that Mr. Sprague will secure an increase of at least fifty telephones during the next few months.

Mr. Swartz of the Petoskey District recently completed the patrol of toll lines between Grayling and Roscommon.

The Farmers Mutual Telephone Company at Kingsley has purchased a new two-position board to handle the increased business.

Recently a lease was executed covering additional room at the Traverse City exchange quarters, which will be used as a retiring room for the traffic force. Furniture and lockers have been ordered and the room will be made as comfortable as possible. This effort is greatly appreciated by the operators of the Traverse City exchange.

### Port Huron District

Miss Margaret Stack, commercial clerk of the Port Huron exchange, spent the Christmas holidays with relatives in Kenosha.

Miss Ella Schroeder, assistant cashier of the Port Huron exchange, spent the Christmas holidays with friends and relatives in Detroit.

Miss Sadie Needham, chief operator at Port Huron, spent New Year's holidays with friends in Richmond, Columbus and Smith's Creek.

Testman Eric J. Natzel, Port Huron exchange, spent Christmas and New Year's visiting friends—abroad!

Milo K. Rolph, repairman No. 1, Port Huron exchange, was called to Marcelles, Illinois, New Year's Day on business.

Manager D. J. Wisner and wife of Holly spent the holidays with Manager H. J. Johnston and wife of Port Huron.

Miss Maud McMann, local operator at the Port Huron



W. A. JAMES  
And son "Billie," a future telephone man.

exchange, spent Christmas with her parents near Marlette.

District Manager C. C. Failing and office force are pleasantly located in their new headquarters in the Percival block, Military street.

A. E. Johnston, Port Huron exchange, has accepted a position as toll line repairman at Bad Axe.

Sam Simmons, formerly toll line repairman at Bad Axe, has been transferred to the Port Huron exchange as lineman No. 1.

Mount Clemens operators were the recipients of numerous Christmas and New Year's gifts sent to the office by some of the busy business men and also women who have occasion to use the telephone service a great deal. The gifts were greatly appreciated by all of the operators.

Miss Vera Quackenbush, night operator at Mount Clemens, has resigned and will be married some time during the month.

Miss Elsie Peltier is a new local operator at Mount Clemens.

### Sault Ste. Marie District

A little son came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hector Rodgers on December 15th. Mr. Rodgers is employed in the plant department at Sault Ste. Marie.

Miss Laura Davis has been filling the position of night operator at St. Ignace during the illness of Miss Nina Kollar.

Miss Cecelia Malloy, local operator at Sault Ste. Marie exchange, has resigned to take up her residence in Detroit.

Miss Doris Renaud, local operator at Sault Ste. Marie exchange, has resigned in order to complete her senior year in high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rex of Harbor Springs are now located in Sault Ste. Marie. Mr. Rex entered the service at Sault Ste. Marie on November 6th.

Cableman LeGendre and helper are in the Soo making cable additions.

### "Ford" Hauls Poles

The picture on this page shows one of the many uses to which the "universal car" is put by the Jackson exchange in serving all sorts of purposes.

On December 16th word came to the office that there was a break on the American Telephone and Telegraph toll lead east of Grass Lake, a station ten miles east of Jackson on the Michigan Central Railroad. Investigation proved that two new poles were needed at the scene of trouble. Mr. Warblow, toll line repairman at Jackson, summoned his crew of helpers, took

two thirty-five-foot poles, called the little Ford into service and within an incredibly short space of time the whole outfit was at its destination. The picture shows how Mr. Warblow managed to contrive a way to have the car haul the poles. It was taken shortly after arrival at the village. To make this an example of efficiency, full and complete, they managed to get the poles set, crossarms transferred and all repairs completed in ample time to permit them to get back to Jackson in time for dinner.

### Warblow's Migration

Fred A. Warblow, known more familiarly as "Red," has been transferred from a position as toll repairman and foster father to the Ford car at Jackson exchange to a position at Athens exchange, which is located near Battle Creek. Mr. Warblow is neither red-haired nor hot-tempered, but apparently acquired his nickname by operation of the same method of logic which prompts people to call a future white hope Percival.

At the present time Mr. Warblow is concerned more particularly with the maintenance of the plant. This branch of work had previously been taken care of by the Battle Creek exchange, and Fred is the first regular plant man to be stationed at Athens.

Mr. Warblow is very reticent and also modest, so that the only photograph available is that one in which he is shown beside the beloved Ford car which is printed on another page in connection with the Episode of the Ford Car and the Thirty-foot Poles.

### Moving Grayling Exchange

The connecting exchange at Grayling, owned by M. A. Bates and consisting of approximately one hundred and sixty subscribers, has been moved from congested quarters in the rear of the post office to commodious quarters upstairs in the same building. The new quarters have been re-decorated and new furniture installed. They are very comfortable.

In moving the equipment to the new location one additional switchboard position was added, making two positions. The Petoskey district force of the Michigan State Telephone Company assisted Mr. Bates in moving the exchange and were also on hand to cut in the toll lines at the new location.

This exchange has several lines covering the State militia and camping grounds. The exchange has grown rapidly and has been very busy during the past summer on account of the mobilization of the Naval Guard at this point.

A special toll operator was furnished to Mr. Bates by the Michigan State Telephone Company during the summer to take care of the extra heavy traffic.

### Strenuous Job at Jackson

At nine a. m. December 28th a 100-pair lateral on West Pearl street, Jackson, went bad, between Jackson street and underground head at the third alley west of Jackson street. Trouble was definitely located in this lateral and a bridge test showed the source to be 130 feet from the box. Arrangements were immediately made to replace this section by first pulling out the old piece, which is 318 feet long. Recently the construction department installed some new ducts paralleling the old one, with the intention ultimately of abandoning the old route and changing the location of the underground terminal. Attempts were made all afternoon to get the old cable out and at the same time preparations were going on to bring the cable in the new ducts. Both new manholes had considerable water in them, and the pump froze, causing considerable trouble. The old cable was lodged so tight that it could not be moved. It broke and stretched several times. Mr. Kennedy of the construction department, with his men came to the front, giving some valuable assistance. A pole was set across the alley and sidewalk from the terminal pole and a lateral pipe placed to the end of the new ducts. The cable was pulled in and ready for the splicers, Dan Cummings and Edward Geer, at eleven-thirty p. m.

They immediately started tagging and by five-thirty the next morning had everything working. This cable feeds some important business places, among them the Consumers Power Company. Some strong lights were borrowed from the power company and connected to their lead which passes by on joint ownership poles. The temperature during this time was below zero and a strong west wind was blowing.



"FORD" USED FOR RAPID POLE DELIVERY.

### Soldier Boys Home Again

With a few exceptions, the Michigan State Telephone Company's soldier boys are home again and back in the places they left last June when the nation called them to the colors.

The thirty-first regiment, which was the first of the Michigan troops to arrive at the border last summer, was the first to return. The boys apparently enjoyed the experience and, judging from appearances, one is led to the conclusion that it did them no harm, for they seemed to be in the best of physical condition, fine specimens of manhood. Nevertheless, they declare they are glad to return to the pursuits of peace.

To the Thirty-first was accorded the honor which the citizens of Detroit would bestow upon the patriotic guardsmen who were ready to offer their lives in the nation's cause. On Tuesday, January 16th, the city of Detroit gave the returning troops an official welcome. Despite the cold and damp weather, thousands of people lined Woodward avenue to see the boys in khaki go marching by; to welcome them back home as they had bid them Godspeed several months ago when the clouds of war were hovering over the country. The soldiers marched to the Armory, where they were banqueted by the mayor and other city officials and where an appropriate program was rendered with some of the city's foremost men of affairs participating. A pretty ceremony was the presentation of the new regimental colors by Mayor Marx in token of the appreciation by the city of the splendid services of the men.

On Saturday, January 20th, at an early hour, the work of mustering out the men began, and they were freed from active service in the army of the United States at the rate of one company every twenty minutes until the entire regiment was dismissed.

The following Monday the boys of the Thirty-second arrived in Detroit, glad to be able to get back to civil life. Before the News reaches its readers the Thirty-second will also have been mustered out of the active service of Uncle Sam.

The return of these two regiments leaves Michigan represented at the border by the Thirty-third. Inasmuch as this regiment was among the last of the troops to be

sent to the border, it is not likely that it will return until the last of the militia regiments are released.

### Fire at Marquette

A fire starting in one of the stores in the business district of Marquette Saturday, January 6th, at 6:50 a. m., spread and continued to burn all day, totally destroying one business block. The fire department did valiant work and about 11 a. m.



WELCOME HOME TO MICHIGAN SOLDIERS.

—Courtesy of Detroit News.

had the fire under control. Miss Devine, chief operator of the Marquette exchange, coming on duty at 7 a. m., notified all persons having offices or places of business within the fire zone, and all parties got to the fire in a short time. The local traffic was normal up to 8:30 a. m., but from that hour up to 5 p. m. traffic was very heavy. The evening traffic was normal, but it was thought advisable to have two all-night operators in case of emergency.

### Moving Gaylord Exchange

The Onaway-Alpena Telephone Company recently moved the Gaylord exchange from rented quarters to a building purchased by the company, which will be used exclusively for telephone purposes. It is the practice of this company to house all exchanges in company-owned buildings. The work order has been prepared to cut in the Michigan State Telephone Company's toll lines with a toll-line cable. All wires enter the new building from the rear.

### Topinabee Toll Station Destroyed

Fire at Topinabee on January 2d destroyed the postoffice, general store and telephone office. The Cheboygan office was notified of the fire by the Michigan Central trainmen and arrangements were made immediately to restore service. Mr. Edson, manager at Cheboygan, left on the early morning train with men and equipment and connected up a temporary toll station. This was accomplished and service restored

by ten o'clock on the morning of January 3d. This toll station also gives service to a roadway line out of Topinabee. The equipment consisted of a 10-jack back-board with booth, protectors, bells and other apparatus. Protector mountings and forty feet of twenty-five-pair cable were also lost.

### Christmas at Port Huron

Saturday evening, December 23rd, the employes of the Port Huron exchange had their first Christmas tree. A beautiful tree was secured by the men of the plant department. It was mounted in the commercial office and trimmed with various colored lights and Christmas tree decorations. At ten o'clock fifty-three of the employes had arrived and the "fun" started. A "real, regular" Santa Claus was present for the occasion, Testman Eric J. Natzel taking the part. Everyone present received a number of gifts off the tree, the majority of which were very useful. After old Santa had completed his part, the crowd was delightfully entertained with a number of readings by Miss Margaret Pettengill chief clerk to District Manager C. C. Failing. A Victrola donated by Grinnel Brothers Music Company furnished music during the evening. The crate of oranges, bunch of bananas, numerous boxes of candy and dainty Christmas gifts given to the employes by the Port Huron subscribers speak well for the class of service given. At a late hour the party broke up and all left for their homes, wishing each other a very merry Christmas. The employes of the Port Huron exchange brought Christmas cheer to four poor families by sending all kinds of good things to eat and clothes to wear. At six o'clock City Foreman "Bill" Frumveller, assisted by old Santa and ten girls from the traffic department, distributed the gifts to the poor and it is needless to say the gifts were all appreciated by the poor families.

### Compliments from Associated Press

The plant department of the Michigan State Telephone Company may appropriate unto itself the following words of praise which appeared in the January issue of *The Traffic Bulletin of The Associated Press*:

### Good Work by Detroit Office.

Correspondent Tennis of Detroit, in making a report to Superintendent Cowles, at Chicago, writes as follows:

"I cannot forward this report to you without adding a note of appreciation for the remarkable service given the state papers this week by our traffic department

M—

and the telephone company. We passed through every kind of weather—snow, sleet, rain, high winds and a driving blizzard. Yet, day after day, the wire was kept going with even less than an ordinary amount of minor interruptions.

"In face of severe weather conditions, it seems that a circuit which can clear 1,640 words of general news in every hour of six consecutive week days and, in addition to that handle a daily average of twenty-three state items which totaled 1,888 words, is worthy of special mention."

Superintendent Cowles made this comment:

"Evidently the traffic department at Detroit is doing some excellent work, for which it is to be commended."

The above report was forwarded to the editor of BELL TELEPHONE NEWS by General Manager G. M. Welch of the Michigan State Telephone Company. In his letter he said:

"I think that this report should be printed in the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS so that every member of the plant department in Michigan may know that their excellent work in keeping the lines in service is highly appreciated by the Associated Press. The maintaining of these lines during such a period was of great importance to the public. This is the sort of work that makes telephone service so reliable and consequently so valuable."

"The whole plant department is to be congratulated."

### Organization Changes

Henry Lampman, who has been manager of the Hillsdale exchange for the past year and a half, has been promoted to the position of manager of the Jackson exchange, succeeding J. Rodney Weeks, resigned. Mr. Weeks left the employ of the company the first of the year to take a position with a manufacturing concern in Jackson.

Mr. Lampman is a native of Branch County, but at an early age moved to Hillsdale County, where he received his elementary education. Completing a college course in the East, Mr. Lampman entered upon the important work of teaching, accepting a position near Hillsdale. Finding business more to his liking, he entered the telephone ranks, taking his first position with the Camden Rural Telephone Company, which connects with the Bell System. His success at the work brought him into the larger field of greater opportunities in the Michigan State Telephone Company, and he became manager at Holland. Before going to Hillsdale a year ago last June, Mr. Lampman was manager at Charlotte. His telephone career covers a period of twelve years, during which time he has become thoroughly familiar with practically all departments of the business.

Before leaving Hillsdale, Mr. and Mrs. Lampman were entertained by the em-



H. E. LAMPMAN.

ployés of the exchange there. Mr. Lampman was presented with a silver loving cup as a token of the regard in which the Hillsdale employés held him.

Mr. Lampman began his duties at Jackson January 15th with the best wishes for success and further advancement on the part of his many friends throughout the organization.

On January 1st, O. R. Angell, formerly at Milan, took up the management of the company's business at Albion, succeeding W. H. Sullivan. Mr. Angell entered the employ of the company as collector and repairman at Owosso in July, 1905, later moving to Fenton and then to Milan. Mr. Sullivan first served as inspector at Jackson, joining the Bell forces in 1902. Early in 1907 he was transferred to Holly and later that year to Dowagiac. He has been manager at Albion since November, 1913. He is now located at Wyandotte, succeeding Manager Allen at that place.

Ora J. Jeremy is the successor of Mr.



DWIGHT G. WATSON.

New Manager at Kalamazoo, whose appointment was announced last month.

Angell at Milan, this being his first position as manager. Mr. Jeremy became a Bell employé in September, 1913, taking a position as lineman at the Milan office.

Effective December 16th, Irving B. Conrad succeeded O. W. Rector as manager at the Bellevue exchange. Mr. Conrad has rejoined the Bell forces after a withdrawal of several years. He was formerly wire chief at Hillsdale. Mr. Rector has been transferred to the plant department at the Lansing exchange.

A. Clark has succeeded W. A. Badour as manager of the Eau Claire exchange. Mr. Badour has resigned to enter other work, as noted elsewhere. Mr. Clark got his early telephone training as lineman for the Western Union. His first position with the Michigan State Telephone Company was that of manager at Watervliet. Later he was transferred to Kalamazoo as storekeeper and then repairman. He has had seven years' experience in the telephone business.

Charles Conroy took his place in the ranks of managers for the Michigan State Telephone Company January 17th, when he became manager at Manchester. He succeeds George H. Graham, who has been transferred to Hillsdale, succeeding Mr. Lampman. Mr. Conroy was repairman at Manchester the last two years and previous to that worked with the district foreman. Mr. Graham started his telephone career as a groundman in 1902. Good service as lineman and repairman brought him to the manager's position at Manchester in 1911. He took charge of the company's business at Hillsdale January 15th.

### Mr. Eide Married

Randolph Eide, supervisor of traffic, took his place in the ranks of the benedicts January 17th, when his marriage to Miss Edna Ruth Phillips of St. Louis was celebrated. The ceremony took place at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Phillips, 1467 Delmar boulevard, St. Louis, Mo.

The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Mary Catherine Phillips, as maid of honor, and Mr. Eide by his brother, Henry Eide, of Lee, Ill., who served as best man. A reception followed the ceremony and later Mr. and Mrs. Eide departed on a honeymoon trip that took them to eastern points. They will be at home after March 1st at 60 Blaine avenue, Detroit.

The marriage of Mr. Eide came somewhat as a surprise to his many newly-made friends at Detroit. Some of his associates reported early in January that he seemed quite distraught. He picked things up and laid them down again without any apparent object and as though suffering from a nervous strain. One day he thought he had a dinner engagement when he had none and again he forgot one that he had previously made. The climax to these pre-



marriage troubles came when he bought a ticket for St. Louis and failed to remember what he did with it. Whether or not he finally located the missing piece of pasteboard or had to lay down the cash for another has not been divulged.

Mr. Eide came to Detroit last October to accept the position of supervisor of traffic. He has been employed in the traffic department of the Bell system since 1911. He is a native of Lee, Ill., and a graduate of the University of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Eide have the best wishes of a host of friends in the Michigan State Telephone Company.

### Chief Clerks' Club

"To increase efficiency and coöperation." That is the serious task to which the Chief Clerks' Club of the Michigan State Telephone Company purposes to devote its efforts.

The members of this organization are a lot of serious-minded young men, as witness the purpose to which they have set themselves and the manner in which they arrived at a proper name for that body. Chief Clerks' Luncheon Club was suggested, but discarded because their meetings are not for purposes of satisfying the physical man nor yet for the sake of sociability and congeniality; but for this sole and single purpose—work, efficiency, improvement both collectively and individually or whatever other way it can be put to mean the same thing.

The scope of prospective action and of general purpose has widened from the very day that the chief clerks met for the first time to form the organization, as noted in the last issue of the NEWS. Meetings are to be weekly instead of semi-monthly as first planned. The Cadillac Hotel has been made the regular meeting place; time, Monday noon.

An idea of the interest the chief clerks are taking in this organization may be gleaned from the fact that the meeting held Monday, January 22d, every member was present. The following committee had been appointed to make a study of and to recommend how to improve the mailing routine: Messrs. Collins, Kuhn, Rich, Babbitt and Chicoine. They submitted a preliminary report at this meeting. When their work is completed, there will doubtless be some interesting and profitable reading for those who regularly peruse the NEWS.

Following is the committee named to

make a study of correspondence: C. J. Petithory, C. F. Rich, Lowell Johnson, C. Lehmann and Lionel Chicoine. They were scheduled to make a report January 29th.

It is the plan of the club to have one of the members give a ten to fifteen-minute talk on the work in which he is most interested. Mr. Petithory gave the first of these talks, explaining the Employés' Benefit Plan and how it affects the chief clerks. Much work has been planned and committees will be appointed from time to time to make studies and to work out the various problems which the organization wishes to study.

A unique method of organization has been adopted. Instead of electing a president, executive powers are vested in a committee. By means of a plan for rotation in office, every man will have a chance to serve on this committee and also to hold the chairmanship, as that will devolve upon him automatically when he is the ranking member and the time arrives for the chairman who has served his term to retire. The only permanent office in the organization is that of secretary. Mr. Petithory, chief clerk to the general manager, was the unanimous choice of the club for that position. Other members of the executive committee are A. T. Babbitt, chairman; C. F. Rich, J. A. Griffin.

Here's just a tip to the live wires in the employ of the Michigan State: "Watch the Chief Clerks' Club."

### Bowling at Detroit

The boys bowling for the traffic department at Detroit almost took the breath away from the Engineers Wednesday, January 24th, when, in a spirited contest, the tail-enders took two out of three games from the league leaders.

The affair was all the more interesting and novel because Traffic had drawn upon the Engineering department for two of the players who helped turn the trick. Marx-

hausen, who has been unable to land a berth with the Engineers because of alleged inconsistent bowling, came in his fighting togs to help the Traffic boys, and, bowling 210 in the second game, proved a determining factor in giving his fellow engineers a taste of defeat. Traffic had the best of the Engineers in total number of pins, garnering 2,383 tallies as compared with 2,268 secured by their opponents.

The relative positions of the teams has not changed materially during the last month. The Engineers are still ahead in the race for the pennant, although Construction has gained a point in the race for leadership. Maintenance has improved its position the most, having tied Construction for second place and become a serious contender for the season's honors.

Drean, rolling 245 the night of January 11th and 230 and 218 the night of January 24th, takes honors in the bowling between this and the last preceding report. Other high scores are: McCormick, 221; Stevens, 218; Ellis, 215; Haebler, 213; Froelich, 213; Speed, 212; Frazer, 210; Marxhausen, 210; Curtis, 209; Pope, 205; Petithory, 204; Dougherty, 203; McCutcheon, 203.

#### STANDING JANUARY 24TH.

Team.	Won.	Lost.	Per cent.
Engineers .....	34	17	.667
Construction .....	32	19	.627
Maintenance .....	32	19	.627
Commercial .....	28	23	.549
Plant .....	25	26	.500
Installation .....	20	31	.394
Accounting .....	20	31	.394
Traffic .....	14	37	.274

### Christmas Compliments to Operators

Conclusive evidence of the appreciation of the good service rendered by telephone operators in many Michigan towns was given during the holiday season by the generous manner in which the girls at the switchboard were remembered by some of the company's patrons.

Gifts varied from a box of candy to a five-dollar gold piece, supplemented by letters expressing appreciation of service rendered during the year. In some cases, hundreds of telephone operators in Michigan had reason to look back upon the old year with the feeling of satisfaction that comes from the consciousness of duty well performed.

The operators of the Monroe exchange have all voted Christmas of 1916 "the best ever." Each of the twenty-two operators was the recipient of a very unusual Christmas gift. The River Raisin Pa-



A FINE JOB OF TREE TRIMMING.

Foreman Bert Miller is meeting with great success on toll line patrol in the Port Huron repair area as per the above pictures. Before the work was started in Richmond, Mr. Miller went to see the Mayor of the village and through his assistance was able to secure these fine clearances. Before the work was started it was impossible to see the wires from the ground on account of the dense foliage. The people in Richmond are very much pleased with the work by Mr. Miller and his men.

per Company, the largest paper mill at Monroe, presented each operator with \$5 in the form of a savings account deposit book, \$5 being deposited and posted to each operator's account. Each operator received a letter from the River Raisin Paper Company as follows:

Please accept this little remembrance inclosed, from the officers and directors of the River Raisin Paper Company with every good Christmas wish.

You are at liberty to withdraw this deposit, of course, our idea being to suggest the benefits of a savings account.

To say that the operators were very much pleased and thankful states the case very mildly. Several operators who received various amounts of cash for Christmas immediately added it to the \$5 nest egg.

And then came the telephone company's special cash bonus to employes, the amount ranging from two to three weeks' salary. This, to say the least, is very acceptable and all employes wish to use the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS as the medium for extending their appreciation and gratitude to the company for this generous gift.

The savings account having been started as above stated will now be increased considerably.

The Peters Drug Company at Monroe presented each operator with a beautiful package of Halcyon Rose Powder. The sentiment that accompanied the gift is really prized more by the girls than the powder. The sentiment is as follows:

"To the most courteous and patient operators in Michigan."

The Monroe *News Courier*, a daily newspaper, presented each operator with a beautiful box of writing paper and envelopes to match. Each operator's name is engraved on her paper and envelopes.

About twenty-five pounds of candy found its way to the Monroe operating department, and of course was consumed in the usual short space of time.

A number of Pontiac subscribers were very liberal in their Christmas gifts to the traffic department. The O. J. Beaudett Company presented each young lady in the exchange with a one-pound box of candy, which made eighty-four pounds to be distributed. The Wilson Foundry & Machine Company also sent eighty-four boxes of candy, or a pound for each young lady. Wilfred C. Leland, vice-president and general manager of the Cadillac Motor Company, whose summer home is near Pontiac, sent \$30 in gold to the toll operators. The Cadillac Meat Market presented a crate of oranges. Marcero & Company, wholesale cigar and candy store, presented fifteen pounds of candy in five-pound boxes. The W. E. Wood Construction Company presented one large box of candy.

At Escanaba, Manager Sundquist received a letter from J. C. Kirkpatrick,

president and general manager of the National Pole Company, which greatly pleased the operators and which read as follows: "I hand you herewith check for \$50 to be divided among the telephone operators at your Escanaba exchange with compliments of the National Pole Company and best wishes for a merry Christmas and happy New Year."

The Portland Telephone Company, which connects with the Michigan State at Portland, presented each of the operators of the Bell company with a box of candy as expression of appreciation of services rendered.

Operators at Charlotte received baskets of fruit and candy from several subscribers.

At Sault Ste. Marie the operators were generously remembered by business houses and individuals. A number of subscribers at Newberry, in the Soo district, remembered Mrs. Gutcher, manager at Newberry.

### Meet Mr. Becker

This picture introduces to the telephone employes of Michigan P. J. Becker, the new chief commercial agent for the state division. It is rather a meeting with an old friend, so far as many employes are concerned, for Mr. Becker is already known to some extent in Michigan.

Telephone men who had occasion to come to the office of the general manager when E. D. Trowbridge held that position will probably recall that Mr. Becker was then associated with Mr. Trowbridge as chief clerk. His telephone career began before that, however, for he entered the engineering department as draftsman in 1899.

Like many another young man who feels the irresistible impulse to travel afar and leave the sheltering roof of his father's house to try out his resources in a strange land, Mr. Becker journeyed to Texas in 1902 and there entered upon a varied career

which has eminently qualified him for his new position. He entered the service of the Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company, taking a position as chief clerk to the superintendent of long-distance service for that company at Dallas. Promotion carried him to the district traffic chief's office and at the same time he performed the duties of district commercial agent, then being stationed at Amarillo, Texas. This position he resigned to become chief commercial agent for the Michigan State.

Serving in this capacity, Mr. Becker will have charge of the canvassing throughout the state and the procuring of new business in general. Moreover, according to his own words, he intends to use his extensive experience to make himself generally useful about the place.

### Heavy Station Gains in 1917

Telephone development in Michigan for any one year set a new record during 1916. The company added 26,662 telephones as compared with the increase of 18,950 the preceding year. The net gain in Detroit alone was 14,611 and the rest of the increase was distributed among the industrial centers of Michigan, in the main, although every exchange in the state contributed to the total gain.

The number of telephones gained in Detroit smashed all previous records for growth in the metropolis. More telephones were added to the Detroit exchange in the one year than existed in the entire Detroit service area in 1900. The net gain there was equal to the entire telephone plant of any two exchanges combined, outside of Grand Rapids and Detroit. It was sufficient to supply the average city of 100,000 people with ample telephone service.

A comparison of the number of telephones in Detroit at various periods since 1900 shows what a wonderful growth the company has experienced there. The figures for various periods are as follows:

Year	No. of Telephones
1900.....	10,718
1910.....	47,529
1915.....	89,066
1916.....	100,627
1917.....	115,238

The net gain represents only about half of the total number of telephones actually installed in Detroit last year. Records show that 14,483 telephones were taken out and reinstalled, making the aggregate installation for the year 29,094 telephones, an average of two installations for every telephone gained.

Anticipating a continued increase in population in Detroit, the company is planning to serve 1,000,000 there by 1920 and 1,500,000 by 1930. Plans for extending plant and other equipment are made on that basis. Estimates are that there will be 160,000 telephones in Detroit by the close



P. J. BECKER.

of this decade. These plans call for a huge expenditure of money and a vast amount of labor that will keep all departments working at top-notch speed for some years to come.

Following are a few of the principal items that made history in the telephone business in Detroit in 1916 and which give an insight into the great scope of the business in Michigan's growing metropolis:

Determined on \$10,000,000 construction program.

Spent \$1,706,056 extending and improving the plant in the Detroit exchange area.

Authorized an expenditure of \$3,456,000 during 1917.

Began construction of three fine new exchange buildings, East, Lincoln and Garfield.

Enlarged Walnut, Hemlock, Hickory, North and Cedar offices and made plans for enlarging other existing exchanges or replacing them with new structures.

Bought 698 feet frontage to take care of future growth.

Installed switchboard positions for 659 additional operators.

Laid 227,204 conduit feet of conduit for underground cable.

Added 1,155,614 feet of cable to that already in use in Detroit.

The smaller industrial centers of Michigan did equally well in the matter of growth during the last year. The unparalleled prosperity of the country brought a wonderful amount of activity to the state. Michigan got more than the lion's share of increased business, and with it came a demand for more Bell telephones in its growing, prosperous cities. Battle Creek, Jackson, Lansing, Flint and Saginaw all belong to the class that brought more than 1,000 additional telephones into their respective exchanges.

All of the cities that enjoyed this healthy growth during the last year owe their prosperity to the development of the automobile industry, to a large degree, and the fact that Michigan turns out a great majority of all automobiles manufactured in the country. The outlook for the year just begun is most auspicious. Manufacturers are counting on greater production than that of last year, despite the fact that it established new records in almost all lines. And with the wave of prosperity rising to its peak, will come a still greater demand for Bell service throughout the state.

### Growth in Long-Distance Traffic

The amount of toll business handled at Detroit during the last year and comparisons with the total of former years reveal the growth of the city and its industries from another angle.

The number of long-distance calls originating at Detroit last year aggregated 1,035,463, a gain of 28 per cent. over the business transacted the preceding year.

Four years ago the total amounted to 576,436 calls and in 1908 the gross number of calls was only 417,204.

Beginning with 70,575 calls in January, 1916, the number made each month rose with each succeeding month throughout the year, reaching a total of 92,988 in December.

A surprisingly large part of this gross business, however, represents an actual loss to the company for labor performed without remuneration; for no less than 194,854 calls had to be abandoned because of inability to locate the party wanted. Thus, the number of long-distance calls completed amounted to 840,609 as compared with 701,996 for the preceding year, a gain of 19.7 per cent. over 1915 and of 41 per cent. over 1914.

December's gross was reduced to 74,796 net, a gain of 10.9 per cent. over 1915 and of 55.6 per cent. over 1914. This was the greatest month in the history of the long-distance department of the Michigan State and also the greatest year. January made the low mark with a net total of 61,506 messages, a gain of 29 per cent. over the preceding year and of 43 per cent. over 1914.

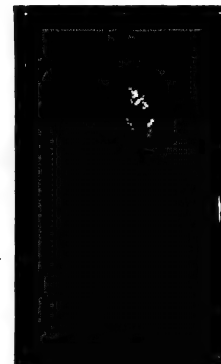
Some decided improvements have been made in recent months in the handling of the toll business in Detroit and business is being despatched with the greatest efficiency that is known to the art. Inaugurating a new method for taking care of the immense volume of traffic between Pontiac and Detroit has greatly expedited the transaction of all business in the office. Certain operators at Detroit are assigned to outgoing calls to Pontiac; others to incoming calls, and the same arrangement exists in the Pontiac office with regard to Detroit messages. Pontiac calls to Detroit are switched to the exchange called for just the same as calls from any exchange in Detroit to any other exchange, making it possible to get any party in Detroit just about as quickly as though the call had originated in Detroit instead of Pontiac. In this way the nineteen circuits running between Pontiac and Detroit are being used with the utmost of efficiency. Mr. Edwards, toll traffic chief, is highly pleased with the innovation and says it will be extended to Mt. Clemens business in the near future. He predicts that the long-distance business in the Detroit office will then be handled in a way that will make the office a model of efficiency.

Anticipating a still greater growth in the toll business originating in Detroit, a training school for long-distance operators is being maintained and a class of seventy-five is being prepared to take up long-distance operating. The school has temporary quarters in the Main building, but will remove to the Cadillac exchange building when alterations are completed. There are two classes in training, each receiving instruction for a period of eight weeks.

### Operator's Good Head Work

Miss Nellie Seamon, night operator at the Hillsdale exchange of the Michigan State Telephone Company, has proved not only a heroine of the switchboard, but has demonstrated that she possesses a large quantity of common sense and nerve, and the ability to think straight in an emergency.

On the night of January 13th a fire started in the store of the Ruckman Shoe



MISS NELLIE SEAMON.

Company and for a time threatened the entire business district of Hillsdale. The loss of this district would be particularly discouraging at this time, for the public-spirited citizens recently organized a chamber of commerce to induce new business to locate in Hillsdale. If the location were but a smoking pile of ruins, the labors of

the energetic secretary would have been a total loss. A young man was passing the store at about three-thirty a. m. when he discovered the blaze. He called up the office and told Miss Seamon of the fire at the shoe store. She immediately called the fire department, which consists of some thirty citizens who become fire-fighters when occasion demands. After awakening them from their slumbers (and to wake thirty healthy, normal firemen from a deep sleep, particularly when the sleep is being taken in the middle of the night, is no small task), she called up every business man who owned a store in the block or who might be interested in a financial way. In calling the proprietors and others interested, she not only earned their undying gratitude, but also, it is rumored, a fine chance of being elected the "queen" of the next firemen's ball.

A letter from the owner of the block in which the fire started, Dr. Walter H. Sawyer, reads:

"We wish to express our gratitude to you for your helpfulness and kindness on the night of the fire in the block. Please accept the enclosed as an expression of the same."

Miss Seamon removed the "enclosed" from the note before it reached the writer's hand, and so further details are lacking, but it is said to have been a check for a tidy sum.

The fire completely burned out one store and seriously damaged the adjoining buildings. But for the heroic work of Miss Seamon, it is likely the greater and best part of Hillsdale's business district would to-day be a heap of ashes.

### Thanks in Rhyme

Last summer Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Wood of Chicago, while on their vacation, visited Benton Harbor exchange. They were introduced to and made friends with several of the traffic employés. During the holidays a letter was received from them wishing all a Merry Christmas and expressing appreciation of the telephone service received during their visit in Benton Harbor. The operators wishing to continue the friendship showered them with New Year's greetings via post-cards.

The following poem was received recently from Mr. Wood, who is editor of the *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, but is better known as the teacher of the Wesleyan Bible class:

Upon my desk last Tuesday night  
There was a sight that brought delight;  
For there, as plain as plain could be,  
I saw eight girls had sent to me  
Some cards from Benton Harbor town,  
A city of no small renown.

From Ella, Fern and Marjorie,  
Maybelle, Agnes, May, Marie;  
But one card was unsigned; instead  
"An operator" 'sall it said.  
Perhaps she thought that ere it came  
She might perchance have changed her name.

In "Seventeen," pray don't feel grieved  
If folks persist in getting peeved;  
You see, they never yet have been  
Behind the switchboard's noisy din;  
Don't know how hard it is to greet  
A cranky "call in," and keep sweet.

If I should die and go up higher,  
I'll get you on the heavenly wire;  
But I prefer to stay below,  
Where I can say "Hello! Hello!"  
Forget me not, smile on; be good,  
This is the wish of Frank L. Wood.

P. S.  
And at the last there comes one more,  
From St. Jo, on the other shore;  
It is a funny little one,  
And signed by Edith Gustafson;  
"Now, girls, what think you I should do?  
I guess just this—I'll thank her, too."

### Letters of Appreciation

Managers in several towns in Michigan have received letters expressing appreciation of the work of telephone employés. Several of these letters are reproduced below.

#### THE WESLEYAN BIBLE CLASS

Western Avenue and Monroe Street  
Frank L. Wood, Teacher  
Chicago, December 21, 1916.  
Manager, Michigan State Telephone Co.,  
Benton Harbor, Mich.

Dear Sir: For many years we have enjoyed the friendship of Miss Stella Lyle

—M

and last summer met a number of the young women who work behind the scenes.

What they did and the way they did it was a revelation to us, and since then we have not "sassed" central. We got a new viewpoint. Have just read in the *News Palladium* of your Christmas party.

We hope the above facts will warrant us in asking you to extend to all who attend our earnest wishes for the very best kind of an evening; one where joy will be unrestrained. Only wish we "belonged" and had a "number."

With kind personal regards, believe us

Very sincerely yours,

MR. AND MRS. FRANK L. WOOD.

Benton Harbor, Mich., January 1, 1917.

Mr. W. L. Steven,  
Manager of Telephone Company,  
Benton Harbor, Mich.

Dear Sir: Permit me to express my sincere appreciation for the efficiency and courtesies displayed by your operator known as "Information."

I was wanted Sunday afternoon on an important long-distance call from Chicago, at which time I was out on a farm on Euclid avenue. Your operator, after several attempts, which appeared as an impossible call, located me.

An appreciative subscriber.

Very truly yours,

JOSEPH G. WIEDDER, M. D.

#### IDEAL FURNACE COMPANY

Milan, December 23, 1916.

Mr. O. R. Angel,  
Mgr. Local Branch, State Telephone Co.,  
Milan, Mich.

Dear Sir: About a year ago, as a result of your solicitation, we installed one of your call switchboards. After a year's trial we desire to say to you that same has given splendid satisfaction during the entire period that it has been used, so much so that Mr. Bruce, our treasurer, who at the time thought it was a useless expenditure, has had the same service installed at our Detroit office.

We understand that your company is going to transfer you to other quarters, and therefore wish at this time to take this opportunity to thank you for your splendid service at all times.

Wishing you success in your new locality, we are Yours truly,

IDEAL FURNACE COMPANY.

Per H. D. KELLER, Supt.

### An Easy One

A subscriber at Benton Harbor, Mich., called Information and asked for the "number of a widow whose husband died and whose son was drowned in Lake Michigan last fall and whose store was burned." She had married again and the subscriber did not know her new name.

### "L"

Our 'phone is labeled "W,"  
The other person's "L,"  
Our troubles may not trouble you,  
But list and I shall tell.

A tale of deep depravity—  
Of "L's," of course, not mine—  
Whenever I would have it, he  
Has always got the line.

If I've forgotten to ring up  
Until the utmost minute  
And grab the telephone thing up  
I hear "L's" voice in it.

"Keep off the line, please," is his phrase—  
He's chatting with his bride—  
He talks for minutes, hours, days,  
While I stand there beside.

As time crawls slowly by I wait,  
But now and then I hunch  
The little forked hanger plate  
And cuss the whole "L" bunch.

And then a voice makes comment  
About ill-mannered guys,  
And swears 'twill never live content  
'Till "W's" household dies.

If I by chance have got the line  
Then he butts in to say:  
"Some folks don't ever sleep or dine,  
But talk the live long day."

Then sometimes on a chilly night  
I'll hear the phone go "ting,"  
I'll crawl forth groping, light the light,  
Ask, "Central, did you ring?"

"'Twas not your number that I struck,  
The trouble's with the bell.  
Excuse me, 'W,' 'twas bad luck,  
I was just raising 'L.'"  
—Robert Bledsoe Mayfield in New Orleans  
*Times-Picayune.*

### Men Who Stand Out

All successful employers of labor are stalking men who will do the unusual, men who think, men who attract attention by performing more than is expected of them. These men have no difficulty in making their worth felt. They stand out above their fellows until their superiors cannot fail to see them—Charles M. Schwab, in *American Magazine*.

### Dog Barks "Quietly"

According to the *Gazette de France*, a certain French regiment possesses a dog which is sent out from advanced sentry posts at night with a telephone strapped over his mouth and a wire connecting the instrument with the post. If the dog hears the Germans approaching it barks quietly into the telephone.



### Boys Walk Across Continent

Kenneth Hollister, now an employé of the plant department of the Chicago Telephone Company, was one of a trio of high school boys who walked from the Pacific to the Atlantic coasts during 1916. The trip had been undertaken by the three in the interest of their musical education, but the alkali dust of the desert so affected young Hollister's throat that he was obliged to postpone his musical studies. Meanwhile he finds telephone work to his liking.

The other two youthful hikers were Raymond Moyer and William Simonson, of Portland, Ore. They decided last spring that they would like to polish off their education with a course in the Boston Conservatory of Music. So with a combined capital of five dollars, these lads, who styled themselves the "Rose City Hikers," left the Hotel Portland on Sunday, May 7th, at 12:55 p. m. Precisely three months to the minute these "hoof-hikers," brown as berries, healthy as muskrats and with ravenous appetites strode into the Hotel McAlpin, New York City. They looked like they had endured a three months' campaign in the trenches.

The young knights of the wanderlust traveled 3,929 miles. By direct route over the roads it would have been 3,244 miles, but they thought nothing of turning off the route for many miles to get a glimpse of a special object of interest, for instance, Salt Lake City and the battlefield of Gettysburg.

The three slept in the open and traveled most of the time at night when it was cool. They were clad in khaki uniforms and each carried a knapsack weighing eighteen pounds, a camera, flashlight, knife and water bag. The knapsacks contained a blanket, a change of underclothing, a first-aid kit, and some provisions, as many a time the boys were miles from either town or farmhouse. No hats were worn. Everything worn was made in Portland and was given to the boys by merchants and manufacturers of that place.

Indicative of the friction of travel, although they were wearing the same shoes with which they began their journey, it had been necessary to have the soles replaced three times on the way. The only ill effects experienced by the travelers was during the first two weeks, when severe attacks of sore feet developed.

The hikers had many interesting as well as thrilling experiences on their trip east, such as being lost on the prairies of Wyoming for thirty-six hours with neither food nor drink, among rattlesnakes and coyotes. It was here that a rattler three feet in length bearing twelve rattles snuggled between Hollister and Simonson while they slept. No harm resulted, as a sheep herder had previously demonstrated how easy it was to make a rattlesnake harmless, and the lads profited thereby. The custom of using whisky for snake bites was not

countenanced, as whisky starts circulation, and this is just what must be prevented, they say. While crossing the Blue Mountains in Oregon, the boys lost their way and wandered into an Indian camp. It



BOY "HIKERS" READY TO START.

Left to right—Kenneth Hollister, Raymond Moyer, William Simonson.

was here that they saw how the Indians lived in real life. They made their wants known and were mighty glad to partake of the food set before them.

Bear visited their primitive camps many times. Among other animals encountered were deer, badgers, porcupines and antelope. No weapons were carried with the exception of a knife.

The highest point reached was at Sherman's Pass, a peak 8,270 feet high. A vast difference in temperature was noticed.

In speaking of the trip, Kenneth Hollister said: "We thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Our itinerary was officially checked up and verified by the mayor or other responsible persons of each of the principal cities or towns visited. We carried letters from eighteen organizations, including civic and fraternal. We have visited the following states: Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. We know the value of good roads and talked on the subject wherever we had the opportunity. We appeared in theatres en route and sold photographs, thereby netting us quite a profit. We figure our trip cost us \$3.50. The entertainment accorded us far exceeded our expectations. We have met business men, and in my estimation a hike such as we have made is as good as four years in college as far as practical experience is concerned."

The three boys spent ninety-three days on the trip, walking eighty-eight and resting five. They kept careful account of

### The Telephone in Verse

The telephone seems to have made a marked impression upon the poetic imagination of Robert Frost of Boston. Mr. Frost is one of the foremost of contemporary American poets and has been alluded to in one review as "the American Wordsworth." He has already published three poems apropos the telephone in his book, "Mountain Interval," Henry Holt & Company, 1916. One of these, "The Line-Gang," follows:

"Here comes the line-gang pioneering by.  
They throw a forest down less cut than broken.  
They plant dead trees for living, and the dead  
They string together with a living thread.  
They string an instrument against the sky  
Wherein words whether beaten out or spoken  
Will run as hushed as when they were a thought,  
But in no hush they string it; they go past  
With shouts afar to pull the cable taut,  
To ease away—they have it. With a laugh.  
An oath of towns that set the wild at naught,  
They bring the telephone and telegraph."

### The Man Who Quits

The man who quits has a brain and hand  
As good as the next, but lacks the sand  
That would make him stick, with a courage stout,  
To whatever he tackles, and fight it out.  
He starts with a rush, and a solemn vow  
That he'll soon be showing the other how;  
Then something new strikes his roving eye,  
And his task is left for the bye-and-bye.

It's up to each man what becomes of him;

He must find in himself the grit and vim  
That brings success; he can get the skill,  
If he brings to the task a steadfast will.

No man is beaten till he gives in;  
Hard luck can't stand for a cheerful grin;  
The man who fails needs a better excuse  
Than the quitter's whining, "What's the use?"

For the man who quits lets his chances slip,

Just because he's too lazy to keep his grip.  
The man who sticks goes ahead with a shout,

While the man who quits joins the "down and out."—*Ford Times.*

### A Record Call

On November 27, 1916, a transcontinental call to New York City was filed at Los Angeles. The conversation lasted thirty-one minutes, and the charge was \$2.21. The transmission was perfect and no interruptions occurred throughout the entire period.



TYPICAL TELEPHONE PAY STATIONS.

(1) Union Depot, Cleveland, Ohio. (2) New Michigan Central Terminal, Detroit, Mich. (3) Pay Station in Elevator Shaft, Otis Building, Chicago. (4) Union Depot, Milwaukee, Wis. (5) Hotel Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wis. (6) Hotel Euclid, Cleveland, Ohio.

## Public Pay Station an Evolution

### Familiar Institution of the Bell System Performs Important and Useful Service— Sketch of Its Growth

In a little town in Oklahoma, so the story goes, a long-distance call was passed to a hotel, the operator at the same time reporting that the called party was on the line. Hearing no response to the repeated "Hellos" of the caller, she rang the hotel on another circuit. The porter answered. "Where is Mr. Mitchell?" asked the operator.

"Mr. Mitchell, he am in de caboose now, a-waitin' for de call," replied the porter.

And such proved to be the case. Mr. Mitchell was making use of one of the great conveniences and aids to good telephone service, which are now to be found in many hundreds of public places in many thousands of cities, towns and villages throughout the land.

The public telephone station is one of the obvious developments of the service and its origin is traced to some of the ancient methods of conducting the telephone business which were proper in their time, but which have long since been discarded.

The earlier forms of telephone contracts with subscribers provided that a patron might use not only the instrument on his own premises, but that of any other subscriber. The limited number of places where service was available made it appear necessary to provide some means by which a subscriber might be able to reach his own place of business by wire. Each subscriber, therefore, was supplied with a card, which, upon presentation, was supposed to admit him to the premises of any other subscriber for the purpose of using the telephone. All service at that time was on a flat-rate basis.

Such an arrangement was not likely to be satisfactory, particularly to residence subscribers, and many were the complaints that ice wagon drivers and butchers' delivery boys had muddled the floors of handsome residences whilst on errands to the telephone which were of no benefit to the complaining subscriber and had no connection with his affairs. The effect of such complaints and the natural operation of the law of "least resistance" soon threw the bulk of such calls upon the corner druggist, and for many years the drug store telephones carried the greater part of the traffic originating with non-subscribers.

The drug store in all communities is a neighborhood social center. It is the one place of business which remains cheerfully lighted when all the other places of business, save, perhaps, the neighboring public house, are dark. The druggist of these days carries a few "drugs" on some shelves in the rear of the shop, and the

remainder of his store is frankly devoted to merchandise of a miscellaneous sort such as any householder is liable to need almost any time. He encourages visitors who stop and pass the time of day or perhaps warm their fingers at the glowing "baseburner." He considers that such visitors mean "trade" and by the same logic he was wont to extend a welcome to the person who dropped in to "use the 'phone." And, indeed, such visitors are still accorded the privilege of the free use of the druggist's service in hundreds of the smaller cities and towns where flat telephone rates still prevail.

However, the druggist in the larger city was not long in discovering that such a promiscuous use of his telephone service by "Tom, Dick and Harry" was more of a nuisance than it was worth, and the drug store pay station was the natural evolution. The hotel pay station, which was essentially for long-distance service, had already been established. The automatic coin box, which would register nickels, dimes and quarters, had been developed, but was far from being perfect. Better types of coin boxes were brought out from time to time, the invention culminating in the present-day nickel-first box, which is the highest type of prepayment device and is in use in connection with many thousands of pay stations as well as hundreds of thousands of private telephones in the larger cities where measured service is the rule.

The substitution of a pay station for the free drug store telephone naturally caused some grumbling on the part of those who had previously enjoyed its unrestricted benefits, but the justice of the new plan both to the druggist and the telephone company could not be questioned. The pay station is, therefore, rapidly supplanting the free telephone in all public places, and in time the old-fashioned drug store telephone will, no doubt, disappear entirely. The National Association of Retail Druggists, at the last convention, held in Indianapolis, Indiana, gave hearty indorsement to a resolution favoring the elimination of all free service.

The local pay station at the drug store and the long-distance or local pay station in the hotel lobby were institutions which developed side by side. In the earlier days of the long-distance telephone the transmission was, of course, not nearly so good as at present, and it often required considerable shouting to get the message "across." The telephone booth, in which the user might enjoy some privacy and at the same time relieve the rest of the guests of the necessity of listening

to the intimate family or business affairs he was discussing, was a natural expedient, and to-day every hotel has its public pay station, with booth or battery of booths, in addition to the local and long-distance connection in every guest room. The corner drug store in the more populous cities has found it convenient and profitable to assign space to enough booths to insure immediate service to all patrons. One such drug store in downtown Chicago has eighteen booths and they are kept busy. Every big railroad station is well supplied with pay-station facilities, and here the service is always of the utmost importance. There are many instances on record of almost miraculous promptness in getting a connection for a patron whose train was about to leave the shed. Operators of the highest order of ability are invariably assigned to these stations.

The public pay station at the country cross roads or village store was for many years the only telephone connection available in the rural districts, but the rapid development of farmer line service has made a great change with respect to the native user. The country public station still performs an important function, however. It is the resource in time of distress to the shipwrecked motorist or any other wanderer from home who finds it necessary to get into quick communication with the distant city.

The proper location of signs has been found to be an important essential in making a public pay station of the greatest value in its neighborhood, and thereby a good revenue producer. The commercial and publicity departments have given a great deal of attention to this feature with the result that almost every pay station now has a sign which can be seen from the street or sidewalk. Signs differ somewhat in form in different parts of the country, but all are modifications of the familiar "Blue Bell," which is the best advertised trade-mark in the world.

#### The "Human Side" of the Story

The Oklahoma operator, who learned that the party had duly entered the "caboose," no doubt enjoyed a quiet smile at the expense of the dusky porter who broke the news, and many humorous experiences fall to the lot of our operators who handle this part of the traffic. The public pay station attendants (some of them are men) are in a class by themselves among telephone operators. They meet their patrons face to face. Some of the stories they tell have become classics of the telephone industry. For instance, no one will ever forget about the pompous gentleman who entered the booth and

after remaining some time, emerged and inquired rather angrily of the attendant "when this thing would go up." Another, scarcely less renowned, tells how a patron, on being told to "go into the booth and tell the operator," came back and reported that "there was no operator there."

The prompt work of the pay station attendant at the Congress Hotel, Chicago, is credited with saving the life of a man condemned to death a few years ago. It was during the administration of Governor Herrick, of Ohio. The governor was in Chicago on the day before that set for the execution in the Ohio penitentiary at Columbus of a man convicted of murder. Something came up which prompted the governor to grant a reprieve. It was then almost midnight, and the execution was set for one minute past twelve. The governor reached the hotel ten minutes to twelve. Nine minutes later he was in communication with the warden at Columbus and the execution was stayed. The operator was "Phil" Strauss, now a room clerk at the Congress. As he emerged from the booth, the governor grasped Phil by the hand and thanked him for a service which he said he would never forget.

### Hope for the Office Boy

Theodore N. Vail Discusses the Rapid Rise of Ambitious Lads

By B. C. FORBES

in *American Magazine*

"If the things that go to make up success could be put before the American public in a plain, interesting way and it could be shown how it is in the power of every man to prepare for success just as other successful men prepared, the people would have a new and valuable idea," said Theodore N. Vail, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. "It would disabuse many minds of the impression that the young man has no chance, no opportunity, that other people are pulling him down all the time."

"That is crass nonsense. At no time in history, no place in the world, have young men come to the front as in America to-day."

"In our own company nearly all the important officers are fellows who have come up from the ranks. Let me give you some idea of how they do it."

"When I returned to the telephone company in 1907 (after being away twenty years) I sent for one of the principals of the legal department. When he entered my office he said: 'I haven't seen you for a good while, Mr. Vail. You don't remember me.' I was the office boy in your office. I studied stenography and law; then I got into the legal department and now I am counsel of the company.' That is one example."

"Since I came back we have always had

two or three office boys around. I would notice the particularly bright ones. Then I would miss one of them, and on asking where he had gone I would be told, 'He took up stenography and is now in the clerk's office.' Pretty soon I will send to the head of some department to get certain information. He will bring in a youth with the remark, 'This is the man who knows more about it than anyone else.' And I will recognize in the expert my old friend the ex-office boy. That is happening every week."

"These young men are not pushed forward. They get there themselves. They win their own way."

"We seldom appoint a man from the outside to a big position—only when we want a specialist. It is a rule of our organization to have an understudy ready for every position in the entire business; hence, nothing can happen to any individual that would hurt the company."

### Was This One of Our Girls?

The mayor of Stevens Point, Wis., recently received the following letter:

Dear Mr. Mayor Pasternacki, I am a young farmer and i want to get married. I have a two hundred acre farm and i am lonesome. I am singl and was never married because i could never find the right girl. But i was in Stevens Point a couple of weeks ago and i saw a nice girl there. I was only in town for about an hour and i lost tract of her. I've been thinking it over and i come to the conclusion that i will marry her. She was about middle height and plump, and she was good looking. When you find her please let me know and i will come and get her. Of course if you can't find her maybe you can find another. I can support a wife. Yes and i will even get a ford if she won't marry me without one. Thanking you now. Yours truly, etc.

P. S. She had tan shoes.

### The Gentle Art of Reforming the World

Mr. Average Man turned to his stenographer, who sat at his elbow.

"Call up Smith."

"Yes, sir."

The stenographer got the number.

Mr. Smith was also seated in his office, with his stenographer at his elbow. The bell rang. The conversation:

"Is this Mr. Smith's office?"

"Yes."

"Is Mr. Smith there?"

"Who is this?"

"This is Mr. Average Man."

"Talking?"

"No, his assistant. Won't you ask Mr. Smith to come to the phone?"

"No. Mr. Smith doesn't do business that way. When you put Mr. Average Man on, then I will let Mr. Smith know, and he will come."

"But Mr. Average Man wants to talk to Mr. Smith on important business."

"Wait a moment. . . . Hello! Mr. Smith says he makes it a rule never to respond to a telephone call unless the man who calls him is actually on the wire. You tell Mr. Average Man that, will you?"

Mr. Average Man's stenographer told him what Mr. Smith had said, and he sat for some moments in thought. Mr. Average Man, in spite of rumors to the contrary, has a primitive sense of justice. Then he took up the instrument.

"Hello! Yes. This is Average Man. . . . Hello! Smith?"

"Hello, Average Man! What can I do for you?"

"You've done enough already, old chap. You've made me see a great light. You have taught me what bad manners it is for one man to call up another and expect him to come to the phone first. I can only plead thoughtlessness. It never occurred to me before."

"Don't mention it, old fellow. And now—"

Four minutes later Smith turned to his assistant.

"About how many Average Men have called me up since I first thought of doing this to-day?" he said.

"About eight or nine, sir."

"And the same thing has happened in each case, hasn't it? I've stuck by a perfectly just rule, and in the end each one of them has apologized for his obvious rudeness."

"Yes, sir."

"And how much time has it taken?"

"About twice as long as usual."

"That being the case," replied Smith, looking at the clock and buttoning up his coat, "let us call it a day, and go home and reflect upon the number of other Average Men there may be left yet to reconstruct in this vale of vibrations."—*Life*.

### Prospective Subscribers Form "Waiting List" in Japan

In Japan a telephone and its number can be sold or even pawned, such desirable numbers as 1234, 500 or 5555 bringing as high as \$500, while a broker will lend \$300 to \$400 thereon. This is due to the fact that the number of telephones to be installed by the government monopoly in any one year is limited and is far exceeded by the demand. In Tokio there are about 61,000 telephones, and many who applied seven or eight years ago are yet unsupplied. In the entire country there are 120,000 applications on the waiting list, with government able to supply that many telephones in five or six years.—*Boston News Bureau*.

### A Social Factor

"The telephone is a great social factor."

"You bet! We wouldn't have called on the people next door at all if we hadn't wanted to use their telephone."—*Boston Transcript*.



## Public Ownership in Theory and Practice

In a recent study of the subject of Government Ownership of telephone and telegraph lines, we find the following information as to the liability of the state, and of corporations, to individuals in the transmission of intelligence under private and public ownership of means of communication, which information is amply supported in legal authority:

### I. LIABILITY OF THE STATE TO INDIVIDUALS.

The state is not liable for the torts ["In law, any wrongful act (not involving a breach of contract) for which a civil action will lie"] of its officers or agents in the discharge of their official duties unless it has voluntarily assumed such liability and consented to be so liable.

In the absence of a statute, the State cannot be forced to compensate a private individual for damages to property from the construction or operation of public works.

A statute authorizing suits or claims against the state does not authorize a suit in tort for the negligence or misconduct of officers or agents of the state, unless the state has by statute expressly agreed to be liable for such claims.

Constitutional provisions authorizing suits against the state are not self-executing but provision therefor must be made by the legislature.

As the consent of the state to be sued is entirely voluntary, it may prescribe the cases in which and the terms and conditions under which it may be sued and how the suit shall be conducted.

The consent of the state to be sued may be withdrawn or modified, even though pending suits are thereby defeated.

Where the state is the real party in interest, suits may not be maintained against the state's officers.

### II. DUTIES AND LIABILITIES OF TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANIES TO THEIR PATRONS UNDER THE RULES PREVAILING IN THE UNITED STATES.

Telephone and telegraph companies are required to serve the public impartially and without discrimination.

They may not refuse service and facilities at a reasonable rate upon reasonable conditions of transmission.

They must transmit messages in the order received. They must transmit messages correctly. They must deliver messages to addressee or authorized persons. They must deliver messages promptly within reasonable delivery limits.

Such companies are liable, however, for transmitting libelous messages, or false, fraudulent or unauthorized messages, when such transmission results from their failure to exercise reasonable care and diligence.

For the negligent failure to conform to the requirements of law, such companies are liable for damages.

In certain states patrons can recover for mental anguish resulting from the company's negligence in performing its duty.

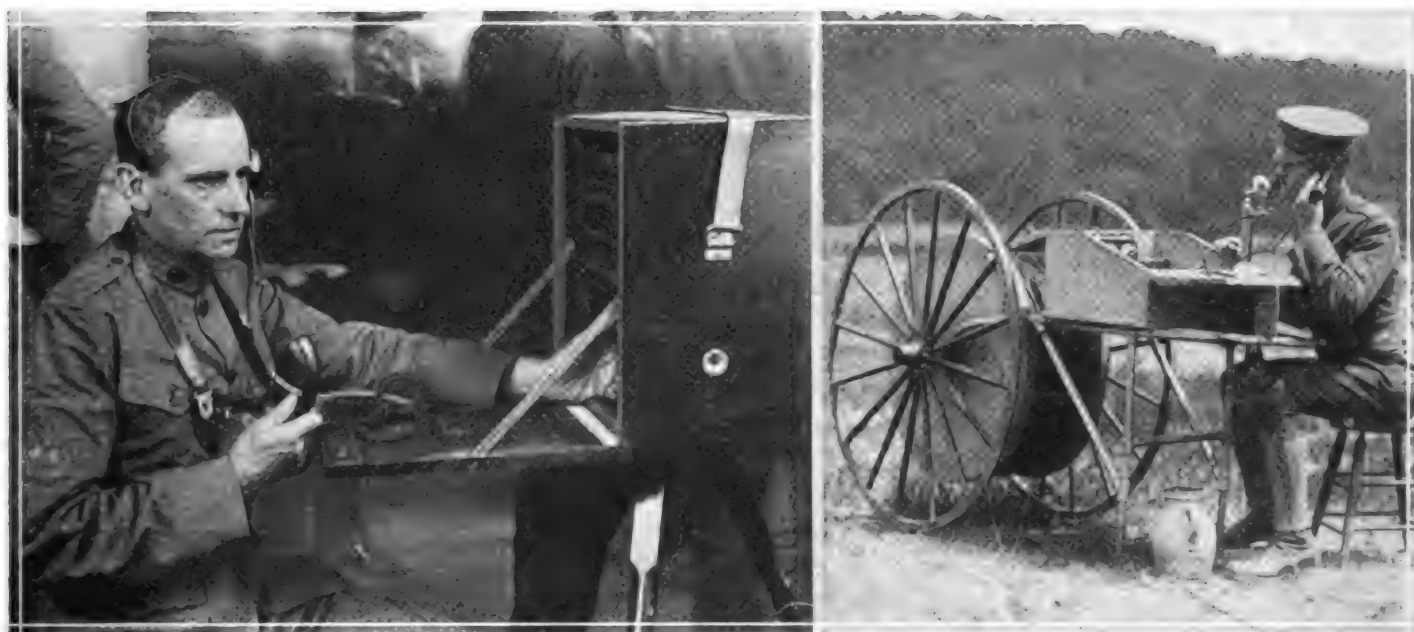
### III. DUTIES AND LIABILITIES OF TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANIES UNDER THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION LAWS OF THE VARIOUS STATES.

All states of the United States with the exception of Arkansas, Delaware, Iowa and Utah have placed in railroad or public service commissions certain jurisdiction and control over telephone and telegraph companies.

With scarcely an exception the commission laws impose on such companies the duty to furnish reasonable, adequate service, facilities and connections at just and reasonable rates and under just and reasonable rules and regulations, without discrimination or preference of any kind in favor of or against patrons or communities.

These laws also make such companies liable in damages for failure to furnish and provide the services and facilities prescribed therein and for negligence in the performance of their duties as well as for failure to fully comply with the requirements of such laws and of the commission empowered thereby to enforce such requirements.

All of such commission laws are supplementary and in addition to other laws in the various states regulating the business of telephone and telegraph companies and specifying their duties and liabilities.



FIELD TELEPHONES USED BY UNITED STATES ARMY

## BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

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## Read Case Decision

On January 20th Judge Dever of the Cook County Superior Court, Chicago, handed down an opinion covering some of the issues in the long drawn out Read case against the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and others. The court held against the American company upon the question of stock ownership—holding that the ownership of Central Union stock by the American company was illegal. The decision in this behalf is not of far-reaching consequence as precedent because of the fact that the more recent Public Utility Law of Illinois now disposes of the entire subject matter and determines how and when such stock holding may be legally had. The court held that the American stock having been acquired prior to the passage of the utility act was not legalized by that act. The insolvency of the Central Union and the obvious necessity of a sale at some time by the receivers to pay its debt makes the decision of slight weight as affecting the present stock.

Upon the other issues the court held partly with and partly against the complainant. Upon issues involving the propriety of the four and one-half per cent. payment the court held with the American company, finding that the use of instruments and engineering and other services rendered therewith constituted an adequate compensation for the four and one-half per cent. paid by the subsidiary company. Upon the issues involving the Western Electric relationship the court also found in favor of the American company, finding that the transactions between the Central Union company and the Western Electric Company were fair. The hearing upon each of these issues had been remarkably thorough. Months were spent in the hearing of the testimony and the complainant's experts were given free access to the books and records of the Western Electric Company. Upon the issue involving the

propriety of the payments made by each company to the other for pole attachments the court held in favor of the American company.

Upon other issues the court held that the accounting was necessary, and to that end ordered that the case be referred to a master in chancery to take further testimony. These issues were the so-called one-hundred-mile contract (a division of territory between the Central Union and the American company); the retirement of certain bonds of the Central Union company; the payment of originating commission and division of tolls; and the leased wire contracts of the American company in Central Union territory. The court also held that there should be a hearing before the master in chancery to determine what, if anything, should be allowed the Central Union company on account of expenditures made by it in fighting competition of the independents, the court finding that the fight made by the Central Union company inured to the benefit of the American company and the Bell System in general.

The court paid high compliment to the integrity and honorable intentions of all the officials of the American company. In comparing the management by the receivership with the previous management by the officials of the Central Union company, the court found nothing to reflect upon the efficient and capable management by the former officials.

## A Correction by Mr. Carty

The following letter addressed to the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS was received from John J. Carty, chief engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, and referred to an article in the January issue of *Public Service Magazine*:

"I have received a number of communi-



JOHN J. CARTY.

cations regarding an article on 'Public Ownership,' appearing in *Public Service* for the month of January. The authorship of this article was incorrectly attributed to me.

"The editor of *Public Service* has explained to me how the mistake occurred and has stated that he will make the necessary correction in the next issue of his paper.

"It will help to clear up considerable misapprehension and, at the same time, save me much inconvenience, if you will be kind enough to print this letter of mine in your next issue."

The publishers of *Public Service Magazine* have disassociated Mr. Carty with the authorship of the article in question, in the following notice which appears in the current issue:

"An article entitled 'What Political Ownership of Telephones Offers' was published in the January issue of *Public Service Magazine* under the name of John J. Carty as author. This was due entirely to an inadvertence in this office. Mr. Carty, well known as chief engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, was not the author and had nothing to do with the preparation or publication of the article."

## Sleet Goes Out of Style

The old-fashioned "sleet" is going out of style this winter before the newer "ice storm" and "glaze." Weather Bureau officials so reported in their campaign for more accurate terminology for various kinds of frozen rain. Sleet is officially described as small globules of rain frozen before striking the earth. When rain freezes after falling and forms a glassy coating on the ground, trees and wires, the condition is called a glaze, and when this is severe and accompanied by wind, it is reported as an ice storm.

The Weather Bureau hopes to eliminate what it considers improper use of the word "sleet," as it has caused substitution of the term "tornado" for "cyclone" when a violent storm of small diameter is meant.—*Boston Transcript*.

## Advice to the Jobless

Following a lecture on the use of the telephone, at Steward's Business College, Baltimore, Md., according to the *Transmitter*, Frank C. Steward, president of the school, said to the students:

"When you finish your course at the school, be sure to leave your telephone number on file with us, so that we can reach you immediately. When a business man decides he wants a stenographer, for instance, he wants that stenographer right away. He telephones to us to send one around. If we can reach you by telephone, we can get you on the way in five minutes. If we have to write you, the chances of your getting the position are decreased."

## Restoring Cable Between Detroit and Belle Isle

By HENRY DAKIN

The famous Belle Isle Bridge spanning the north channel of the Detroit River between the mainland and Belle Isle Park, was destroyed by fire April 27, 1915. A description of the bridge, the cable and the method of restoring the service appeared with suitable illustrations in the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS of June, 1915.

The bridge went out at 3:20 p. m. and through the strenuous efforts of the Detroit plant forces, a submerged twenty-five-pair, paper insulated, lead-covered cable was laid, and service was restored with an interruption of only twenty-four hours.

The public demand required the immediate restoration of a bridge to Belle Isle, and a special election was called in July, 1915, to vote on the issue of \$2,000,000 in bonds, required for the building of a new bridge.

Arrangements were made by the city for the removal of the wrecked structure and the building of a temporary wooden bridge with swinging span over the channel, and the work of removing the wreckage proceeded through the winter.

Early in December, 1915, the Candler Dock and Dredge Company, removing the remains of the old bridge from the river, accidentally severed our cable. In order to place these lines back into service, we planned to string an aerial cable to be fastened to the piers of the old bridge. It was planned to place an aerial cable from the mainland to the north abutment of the draw span, and from this point to use the old submarine cable to the south abutment of the draw span, and then to string an aerial cable to the island.

We had just finished placing the messenger, when a hoisting machine of the wrecking company wrecked our strand. It was then decided that under the existing conditions it would be necessary to place short poles on top of the old piers so as to clear the wrecking outfit. Eight circuits composed of copper-clad wire were spliced directly to the underground cable at the mainland, and a short pole was erected at this point. On the pier between the mainland and the north abutment of the draw span, a pole was set and another was placed on the north abut-



WORK ON BELLE ISLE CABLE  
This picture shows the submarine cable joined to the open span

ment of the draw span. We succeeded in picking up the ends of the submarine cable and spliced the wires directly to the submarine conductors. On the south abutment of the draw span, the submarine cable conductors were spliced directly to eight pairs of twisted-pair wires and from this point the wires were supported on six twenty-foot poles placed on top of the piers at intervals between this point and the pier six spans from the Belle Isle end. The twisted pairs were spliced direct to the old aerial cable remaining on the six steel spans which were not destroyed by the fire.

About the middle of January, 1916, the wrecking company again broke down our lines, calling again for emergency work on the part of the Detroit plant department.

About April 15, 1916, another temporary cable was laid in the river from the mainland to the island.

About the middle of July, 1916, because of damage caused by the wreckers, it was again necessary to lay cable, and so as to prevent further interference, a twenty-five-pair paper-insulated lead-covered cable was again submerged, from the mainland to the island. Late in May this cable failed because of interference by the anchors of the wreckers, and to restore service an aerial cable was spliced direct to the underground on the mainland and submerged to the north abutment of the draw span. Here it was spliced directly to the old submarine cable and from the south end of the submarine cable an aerial cable was spliced and submerged to the pier at the end of the six remaining spans of the old bridge, at the Belle Isle end.

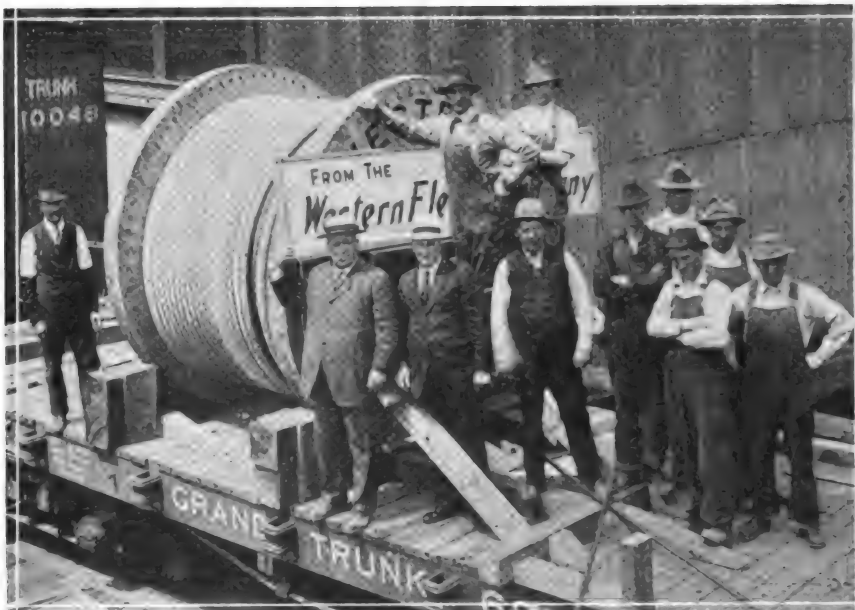
During this construction a high wind prevailed, the seas ran high and the work of submerging the cable was completed with much difficulty, and in the pouring rain.

At this time all of the stations on the island were cut into service and completed for Decoration Day, so as to provide service for the expected crowd of visitors.

On July 27, 1916, during the operations of moving the steel spans to form a part of the temporary bridge, the wrecking company again damaged our cable, and it became necessary to replace about 1,200 feet of the submerged cable. The picture shows the cable as received from the Western Electric Company and the crew which, under direction of General Foreman Evans, completed the job. The work of replacing the cable at different times

was completed under more or less adverse circumstances.

At the time of the last job we were fortunate in obtaining some pictures of some of the linemen during the course of construction. The current in the river under normal circumstances is about six miles an hour at this point, but during the course of construction, a high wind arose and the seas ran high, with the result that several times our linemen were ducked. Finally, however, the strand was placed on the piers and the work of placing the rings and pulling in the cable began.



BELLE ISLE CABLE AS RECEIVED FROM WESTERN ELECTRIC COMPANY  
Foreman Joe Campau on extreme left; General Foreman Price Evans is the first figure in the left of the main group, holding the sign on his shoulder.

Linemen are usually equal to all occasions, as the pictures will indicate, for the boys, expecting another ducking, prepared themselves by donning their bathing suits.

All of this work was considered as of a temporary nature to provide service until the submarine cable, provided under an estimate, could be manufactured. This cable is about 3,200 feet in length and weighs fifteen tons.

After the necessary dredging was completed, the construction department under the supervision of Mr. Gardner, began laying the cable. The actual work of landing and anchoring the cable at Belle Isle end began at eight o'clock, and shortly after ten o'clock the cable was landed at the mainland without accident.

### The Heaviest Submarine Telephone Cable

From the *Scientific American*

Nantucket, an island off the southern coast of Massachusetts, with a population of 3,000 in winter and nearly five times that number in summer, has until recently remained one of the few communities in the United States without long-distance telephone connection. This was not because the people there preferred their isolation, but because such length of submarine cable as would be needed was thought impossible.

The coil perfected by Professor Pupin of Columbia, which made possible the transcontinental telephone, is the basis for new possibilities in marine cables, and has led to the laying of a twenty-four-mile cable from the mainland to Nantucket, the longest submarine cable in the United States. The island, in exchange for loss of its isolation, receives the distinction of being the terminus of this line, which represents the very latest development in science.

The new cable follows the route of the telegraph cable laid some years ago; from the mainland to the island of Martha's Vineyard, and from there across to the farther island, Nantucket.

Twelve flat cars carrying approximately twenty-four miles of cable were shipped to Wood's Hole, the nearest point on the mainland. Two reels at a time were unloaded and stowed away on the cable-laying steamer, the *Robert C. Clowry*, three miles of it being wound on the great paying-out drum in the bow. The four reels, three of 6,100 feet in length, weighing over 70,000 pounds each, and the fourth of 2,900 feet, weighing 26,000 pounds, made a total of 21,200 feet weighing 111 tons exclusive of the weight of the reels themselves.

On the *Clowry* was Alexander Kline, who has laid ninety per cent. of the marine cables in the United States. His work takes him from coast to coast, and in thirty-five years he has laid seven lines across Vineyard Sound, under which the



WORK ON BELLE ISLE CABLE  
A lineman prepared for a Watery Time.

Nantucket cable also passes. Speaking of this last achievement, Mr. Kline remarked: "We have handled many a cable on the Atlantic coast and on the Pacific. We laid the Vancouver cable, the longest telephone cable in the world, but these twenty-four miles are my top-notchers."

The first cable to go aboard was the 2,900-foot length; to it was spliced a 6,100-foot reel, making a total of 9,000 feet, weighing fifty-four tons. The cable from the mainland to Martha's Vineyard weighs 10.6 pounds to the running foot; from that island to Nantucket it weighs but 4.9 pounds. The ordinary deep-sea cable weighs about two tons to the mile, the new Vineyard Sound cable weighs thirty-five tons. Nowhere is there a long submarine cable of such weight. The terrific tides which ebb and flow through the sound necessitated this extraordinary weight, which proved very difficult to handle.

The work of splicing the unwieldy, almost unmanageable line was tedious and difficult, the first splice requiring over eight hours, owing to the frequent tests made on the carefully protected copper wires. As a precaution and as a matter of record, these checking-up trials were rigorously followed out. Each wire inside the shields of metal and sheaves of cordage was incased in vari-colored paper. The colors were used by the engineers as code signals to see that the wires were properly placed to avoid cross-talking. Owing to the unique character of the Nantucket cable the officials embraced every opportunity to gather information for future work.

The *Clowry* was unable to carry the

bulky cable over "Middle Ground," as a long bar of sand is called, so the line was run out in the shape of an immense figure eight and placed on a scow of lightest draft, which was then towed over these dangerous shoals, an approximate distance of 6,000 feet, by motor boat.

Arrived at the Vineyard shore, the cable was carried landward on hemp rope reinforced with wire, which ran from the *Clowry* to a block 2,000 feet away and back again. The cable house is 300 feet farther inland, and here the new line was joined to the cross-island wires.

The end of the cable, capped with metal cover and further protected by wooden splints and heavy lashings, was buoyed up by barrels and floats placed at frequent distances as it came over the side of the steamer. Lashed to the endless round of rope, pulled by a steam winch on the boat and a gang of husky men with oxen on the shore, the line which means so much to the islanders was safely got ashore, and put away in the cable-house with but one mishap, the breaking of the wire rope when the task was almost completed.

The last leg of the cable, from island to island, was laid in three sections—one from the Vineyard shore out to sea, one from Nantucket out to sea, the ends being buoyed, and a center section spliced in. The buoyed end from the Vineyard shore was picked up, and the splicing done aboard the *Clowry*. The steamer then took her course by compass, in a dense fog, to pick up the end buoyed out from the Nantucket shore, the cable being paid out as she progressed. When the final splicing was accomplished, and the entire length of cable was stretching across Nantucket Sound, there was but 200 feet of cable left on the steamer, showing careful and painstaking figuring on the part of the officials in charge of the work.

On the Nantucket shore the cable box is located 150 feet from the beach, the cable being buried so that the only visible part is where it enters the box. For hours cable experts, with numerous delicate instruments, applied first one test and then another, seeking all possible kinds of trouble, but none developed. Everything was perfect, and the efficiency of the Nantucket cable, in which 550 miles of steel wire was used in the armoring alone, was assured.

With the opening of this double armored connecting link weighing over three-quarters of a million pounds, and costing about \$100,000, the Nantucket people really became a part of the great continental telephone system with its nine million stations, a matter of great rejoicing to the islanders and to the thousands of summer visitors.

### Edison and Genius

Thomas A. Edison defines genius as two per cent. inspiration at ninety-eight per cent. perspiration.



## Of Interest to Our Girls

Conducted by Mrs. F. E. Dewhurst

### "Educate that You May Be Free"

Over the entrance of a large church school in Chicago is inscribed the above sentiment. Probably the children who swarm through the doorway do not look up to read the motto—if they did they would not appreciate the thought. To most of them probably school seems the antipodes of freedom—to them it means discipline and restraint.

But discipline, after all, is only a word for Education. The disciple is a scholar, and discipline is the act of being taught. The baby begins to be disciplined or taught at once. Regular hours for food and sleep begin the education, which will form the habits which produce a healthful life. The discipline of babyhood produces the freedom of good health. The child hates to be tied down to rules and regulation in school, but the discipline of doing certain things at a certain time—the promptness and concentration—the enforced quiet and consideration for others, will in the end make a *free* citizen. It is the undisciplined, uneducated man who is the terror of the country and who is most likely to be deprived of liberty in our states' prisons. The discipline of the recruit is the only safety of the soldier. The discipline of poverty has made some of our richest men, and the discipline of pain has produced many of the noblest characters.

And in business the same law holds good. The discipline that sometimes seems irksome is the means of making us free. In the telephone business the aim of discipline or education is to give the training which will make it possible for the operator to do her work in the quickest, easiest way. The more perfect the discipline the more enjoyable the work becomes. The sense of power which an operator feels when, through instruction and practice, she is capable of running a full board, is worth all the discipline of the months before.

The child does not know why he learns this rule and that, why he has to be exactly on time, why the teacher marks a thing wrong when there is only one mistake; but through this education he is to get exactness, concentration, control. The telephone operator has her rules and regulations, which at first seem hard to understand. She wonders why the "rising inflection," why the "please," why the same phrase. She feels bound in by rules, her freedom seems to be lost. But it is merely the education that will insure the *easiest* way to do her work. The farseeing telephone educators, who have looked into the art of telephoning, have gathered information which makes it possible for oper-

ators to work together. They become a unit to the public. In this, as in no other business, there must be uniformity of service, and the well-trained operators have set a standard that each newcomer must attain, or the subscriber is surprised and irritated. The lack of discipline comes back always on the young lady herself, for she has delays in her connections and loses time through her own fault.

Concentration and poise, which are so surely the result of discipline, are perhaps the finest fruits of the telephone education, and they are not an asset merely in operating, for the young lady who has gained them through telephone operating has gained them for every experience in life—they are a part of her character.

### Miss Tessie McNamara

That queer thing, courage, which even pacifists may possess and which does not necessarily dwell in the souls of prize-fighters, saved a good many lives at the Kingsland explosion. If Miss Tessie McNamara had not clamped her telephone gear to her head and warned every building within range, the casualty report from New Jersey's sector of the Great War would have read very differently.

Miss McNamara did not faint, as the first enthusiastic chroniclers had it. She walked out of the office—when the last warning had been given—upon her own two feet. Also, she did not retire, overwhelmed, to home and bed, but quite naturally stayed up to see the show of which she had been the prologue. Her whole performance bore out in detail the observations of Mr. Bethell, of the New York Telephone Company, upon the courage of telephone operators in general: "It was splendid heroism, but nothing more than may be expected of a telephone girl in time of need. In every case of emergency she has always proven herself equal to the task." Quite in the day's work, in short, was Miss McNamara's plugging cords in a switchboard on the brink of a volcano to give her fellow workers a chance for their lives.

Some day a psychologist may determine the actual sources of courage. We may then be able to grow it like a plant in a hothouse, feeding it upon the requisite elements of faith, works, what not. In the meantime it is good to know that it flourishes where most needed, without regard to what sometimes is thought to be favoring or unfavoring environment. If a young girl, upon a diet, say, of chocolate creams and movies, for a few dollars a week, without a second's training in a trench or at Plattsburg, can turn out an all-round heroine in the face of a con-

certed trinitrotoluol attack, why worry about ways and means of manufacturing courage? We can afford to take human nature as it is and be thankful for it.—*New York Tribune*.

### The Wires

By Marion Couthouy Smith  
(From the "Road of Life," Seattle; Alice Harriman Co.)

We are the nerves of the world,  
The threads of fate are we,  
Whether in coil and spiral curled,  
Or flung over land and sea;  
From hoards of the ages brought,  
The great rocks yield our life;  
With flame and force is our being wrought,  
With throes of toil and strife.

Over the whole round globe,  
Our mighty web is spun,  
Woven out as a gleaming robe,  
In shimmer of snow and sun;  
Drawn from the clods of earth,  
By a mounting, hot desire,  
We come, to circle its utmost girth  
With meshes of prisoned fire.

We span the bounds of space  
With burning, outstretched hands;  
The speech and soul of a weakening race  
Ride in our vivid strands;  
We start the viewless waves  
Bearing their hidden song,  
And toss them down through our slender  
staves  
To the heart of a waiting throng.

We lift the torch of light;  
We drive the wheels of power;  
Our careless force, through the day and  
night,  
Smites down the opposing hour;  
We make the shining way  
On which man's word may fare;  
He gives his hope to our vibrant sway  
His dreams to our paths of air.

We are the harp of the world,  
The chords of life are we;  
Through us the song of the sphere is  
hurled  
In a storm of harmony;  
Forged in the sullen deeps,  
Strung through the void above,  
We ring with a note that never sleeps—  
The note of a world-wide love.

### So Mean of Him

The Bride (after the elopement)—Oh, my! here's a telephone from papa!  
The Groom (anxiously)—What does he say; what does he say?

The Bride—Don't come home, and all will be forgiven.—*Daily Oklahoman*.

# SPRING FROCKS FEATURE STUDIED SIMPLICITY

*The Demi-Tailleur Much in Evidence—Russian Influence Apparent—The Flat Neck-Finish for Bodices and Blouses.*



The modes for spring do not mean anything if they do not mean studied simplicity. It is the sine qua non of correct costuming. The models shown here are typical of what the well-dressed woman will need. First comes a foulard frock with a distinctive pocket and belt arrangement; next is a straight-line model in cream serge. Fine blue serge is used for the third dress, with yoke and front panel cut in one, and it would be ultra-smart even without the braiding and buttons. Scallops and machine stitching are the high notes of the Burgundy broadcloth to the extreme right.

**By Maude Hall**

The element of style is of first consideration when planning frocks for a new season. While the spring models in one-piece frocks, bodices and blouses show no marked changes, there is an exception in the skirt, which comes in two distinctly different effects—the barrel and the straight line. The barrel skirt is by far

the most striking development for the coming season. It widens from just below the

## Patterns for Bell News Designs

The designs shown on this page are supplied by The Pictorial Review, New York. Patterns may be secured from any Pictorial Review agency.

hips to the knee and then gradually narrows, until at the hem its measurement is considerably reduced. It also has much to do with the bodice, which must be of a more fitted character to create the proper ensemble. The barrel skirt will be difficult for many women to wear—even those of slender figure—consequently there is a general impression that the original

models will undergo a change before they enjoy any marked favor.

Studied simplicity is the outstanding feature of spring modes. The one-piece frock reigns supreme for general wear, encroaching even upon the territory of the tailored costume. The Russian influence in the latter is so apparent, however, that the waning popularity of the *tailleur* is far from imminent. Many slip-on frocks show short-waisted lines, but popular approval is not on the side of the Empire for street occasions. For this reason many of the leading establishments are launching designs showing the well-rounded waist at the normal point. All of the foremost couturiers display straight-line dresses, or chemise effects, as they are perhaps better known. The characteristic of the chemise dress for the spring which differentiates it from that of the winter is in the arrangement of the belt or girdle and also in the design of the yoke.

An effective model in fine serge has the panel front cut in one with a deep square shoulder yoke. The long, straight front and back of the dress are laid in side plaits, the twin belts and bands on the sleeves being effectively trimmed with beading. Russian, Chinese and other Oriental ideas are blended in the decoration of spring frocks and they are expressed by both hand and machine work. Separate motifs give emphasis to such accessories as belts, collars and pockets. The presence of belts, tab-like sashes, tunics and deep collars call for pendants, ranging from the deep tassel to the minuscule drop.

Many pleasingly simple frocks show pockets that are cut in one with the straight belt of self material. Sometimes the pockets are trimmed with braid or, again, there is just a suggestion of brilliant lining to lend a touch of color to the costume. Suitable to development in foulard, taffeta or linen is a one-piece frock with a plain gathered skirt stitched about the bottom with three rows of braid about two inches apart. The bodice has a deep tuck on either side of the front and a dainty collar of hemstitched batiste. Fine soutache braid ornaments the tucks on the bodice, the edge of the sleeves and the deep pockets incorporated with the belt at the sides.

Another model in plain Burgundy broadcloth features machine stitching on the skirt, collar and belt, in addition to a scalloped form of adjustment at the front. From the collar to the hem each buttonhole that fastens over the buttons of self-material appears in the center of a scallop bound with Burgundy satin. An extremely simple trimming, but highly effective.

The girl who likes white will admire a straight-line frock of cream serge with plaited skirt and panel front cut in one with the bodice. Stitching forms the only trimming of the frock, which is sleeveless and very deep-cut at the neck. It is worn over a guimpe of figured crêpe. A promi-

nent feature of dress bodices and blouses is the flat collar. Often the gown or waist will be collarless, the neck finish consisting of a simple stitching or cording. The square and the shallow oval are favorite outlines. The strictly tailored idea calls for the sleeve which is closely fitted and set in at the regular arm-size.

Buttons, bands, embroidery and beading appear on sleeves of all types. In fact, there exists a very close relation between sleeves and belts this season, as far as decoration is concerned.

### Home Dressmaker's Corner

*Courtesy Pictorial Review*

"When you are attempting your first dress, select the best materials you can afford," is the advice of a world-famed dressmaker to young women. This sounds startling, of course, but there is reason



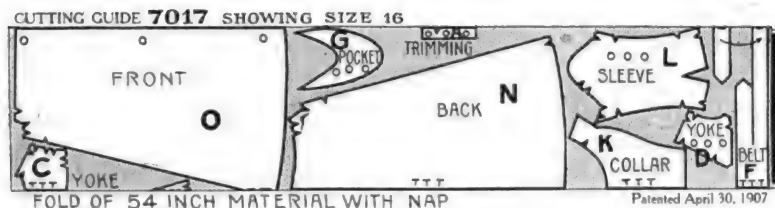
SIMPLE FROCK IN PLAID SERGE.

in her argument: "If the fabric is of good quality, with trimmings to correspond, the amateur will take particular pains with the dress because she knows she cannot afford to spoil it. If the materials are poor she will feel that there is no great loss should the dress go wrong, and she will not make another attempt soon. Of course she must have a good pattern for a guide and if the directions are carefully followed there is no reason why a very good looking frock cannot be developed by a girl who has never tried to make one before."

A very simple model has been selected for the home dressmaking lesson given here. Guides for cutting and construction accompany the description, and these greatly simplify matters. The dress is developed in check serge trimmed with collar and belt of white wash satin. The front and back are box-plaited below a deep square yoke and the new slipper pockets are featured below the narrow belt. Medium size requires 3½ yards of 54-inch serge, with 1 yard 27-inch satin for the collar and belt.

In using the cutting guide first seek the triple "TTT" and large "O" perforations, as these bear important relation to the line of the dress. Wherever the triple "TTT" perforations appear it means that the sewing of a seam is avoided and this always gives pleasure to the sewer who is not quite sure of herself and, in addition, is anxious to finish her frock as quickly as possible. In this instance, the back of the yoke and back gore of the dress are placed on the lengthwise fold of serge, just as pictured in the cutting guide. The front of the dress, the pocket, trimming piece and sleeve are so laid on the serge that the large "O" perforations in the pattern rest on a lengthwise thread. Although satin is used for the collar and the belt, they are laid on the lengthwise fold of material, as shown in the guide so that they will be seamless. If the skirt is desired shorter than regulation length, cut off the lower edges of the front and back of the pattern before placing it on the material. After placing the various parts on the serge, pin down carefully and then cut unhesitatingly with a pair of well-sharpened shears. Any interruption in the cutting is apt to spoil the lines of a dress.

Now take the parts that are not to be used first, fold carefully and put aside. The front and back must be plaited very carefully and the plaits pressed evenly after they are stitched. Form plaits by bringing together and stitching along corresponding lines of small "o" perforations, leaving plaits free below double "oo" perforations; open plaits, keeping seam in center and press. Turn hem at front edge of front, on small "o" perforations. Center-front is indicated by large "O" perforations. Turn under lower edges of front and back yokes on slot perforations, lap on front and back, notches and edges underneath even (bringing front end of front

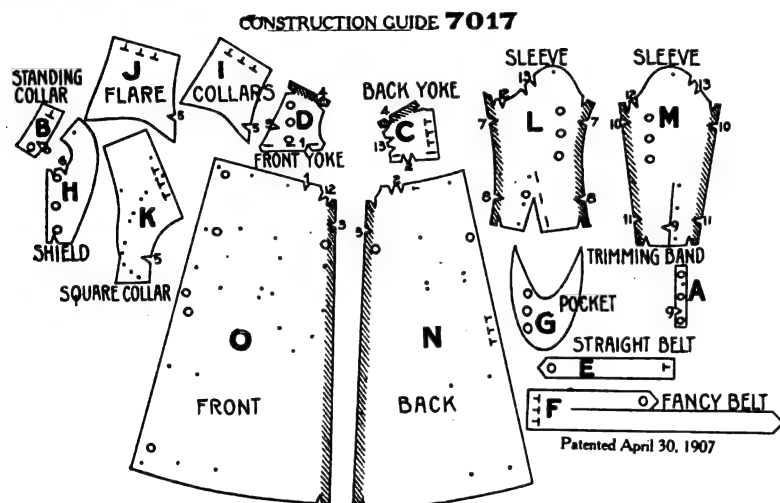


yoke to center-front); stitch  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch from folded edges.

Close under-arm and shoulder seams as notched. Lap right front on left, center-fronts even and stitch to position from single large "O" perforation to lower edge; finish edges above perforation for closing.

I want this day to be a cheerful and successful one, so that I may come to my resting bed to-night glad and satisfied. To accomplish this, I will plan my day intelligently.

As I know what happiness depends on me, my will and attitude and mind, and



Now, braid the collar and finish the edge with a band of contrasting material, if desired. Face and sew to neck edge, notches and centerbacks even.

The large "O" perforations in the pocket indicate front. Adjust to position on front, with outer edge of pocket along indicating small "o" perforations.

Next, adjust the belt to position, with upper edge of belt at large "O" perforation near center-back; center-fronts and center-backs even; large "O" perforation in belt indicates center-front.

Take trimming band for sleeves and sew to slashed edge of sleeves, notches and lower edges even. Lap edge on band having small "o" perforation to line of small "o" perforations and finish for closing. Close remaining seam as notched. Sew sleeve in armhole as notched, small "o" perforation at shoulder seam easing in any fullness.

The addition of buttons of simple design adds greatly to the effectiveness of the dress.

### A 1917 Code

When you awake in the morning, you wash your body. Why don't you wash your mind? You breakfast, putting food in your body to give you strength for the day. Why don't you give your soul its breakfast? Therefore, learn this creed, better if you can, and say it as your day begins:

not on events, I will adjust myself to whatever happens.

I will not WORRY. If a thing can be helped I will help it; if not, I will make the best of it.

I will keep all mental passions out of my thoughts. I will especially resist and exclude Fear, which weakens and unnerves me.

I will not allow myself to become angry.

I will resist pride.

I will try to affect pleasantly everyone with whom I am thrown in contact. I will try to make happiness, as well as to receive it.

I will believe in myself. I will allow nothing to make me doubt myself, nor to create in me discouragement or despair.

I will not let myself despise any human being, and I will keep all connections and condemnatory thoughts of anybody out of my mind, neither will I speak derogatory words.

I will keep my whole self in tune with positive, healthful and optimistic forces.

I will make my enforced intimacies as pleasant as possible. I will get along without friction or bickering, or strained relations with my family, my neighbors, and my business associates.

I will plan for at least a half hour's quiet, for reflection and for cultivation of my own Spirit.

I will be more honest, square and prompt than business requires, more kind than

charity requires, more loyal than friendship requires, more thoughtful than love requires.

I will do somebody a good turn that is not expected of me.

If any person does me wrong, I will not bear him a grudge. I will try to forget it.

I will enjoy as heartily as I can what the day brings me, and get all the pleasure possible out of eating, drinking, working, resting, amusements, and the people I meet, so that at night I may be able to say, "I have lived to-day and found life good."—*National Lamp News*.

### The Winning Way

If you put a little lovin' into all the work you do,  
And a little bit of gladness, and a little bit of you,  
And a little bit of sweetness, and a little bit of song,  
Not a day will seem too toilsome; not a day will seem too long;  
And your work will be attractive, and the world will stop to look,  
And the world will see a sweetness, like the tinklin' of a brook,  
In the finished job; and then the world will turn to look at you  
With a world's appreciation of the thing you've found to do.

Just a little bit of lovin', and a little bit of song,  
And some pride to sort of make it straight and true and clean and strong;  
And the work that you're a-doin', pretty near before you know,  
Will have set the world a-talkin', and the little winds that blow  
Will bring echoes of it to you, and you'll see that you have done  
More than you had dreamed or hoped for when the task was first begun  
And you'll find the bit of lovin' you have put into the same  
Has come back to you in lovin', and come back to you in fame.

—Houston Post.

### The Operator

Year after year,  
With that disc in her ear,  
She listens to blarney and threats.  
Her job is no joke,  
And at times may provoke,  
But think of the jewelry she gets.

\* \* \*

In speaking of jewelry in the above epic we mean rings.—*Edison Round Table*.

### What's the Use?

The grouch says: "If I run to the 'phone when it rings, the call is not for me; and if I don't go it is for me. So, what's the use?"





# Safety First and Accident Prevention

Member National Safety Council  
Member American Museum of Safety



A MULE MAKES NO HEADWAY WHILE  
HE IS KICKING. STOP KICKING,  
BOOST FOR SAFETY AND GET THERE

WHO SUFFERS MOST WHEN AN  
ACCIDENT HAPPENS? THE MAN  
WHO IS HURT OR THE COMPANY?

PUSH+THOUGHT—SOMETHING DONE  
PUSH—THOUGHT—A LAME BACK

## The Parable of the Dangerous Cliff

'Twas a dangerous cliff, as they freely  
confessed,  
Though to walk near its crest was so  
pleasant,  
But over its terrible edge there had slipped  
A duke, and full many a peasant.  
The people said something would have to  
be done,  
But their projects did not at all tally.  
Some said, "Put a fence 'round the edge  
of the cliff";  
And others, "An ambulance down in the  
valley."

The lament of the crowd  
was profound and  
was loud,

As their hearts over-  
flowed with their  
pity;

But the cry for the am-  
bulance carried the  
day

As it spread through  
the neighboring  
city.

A collection was made, to  
accumulate aid,

And the dwellers in  
highway and valley  
Gave dollars and cents,—  
not to furnish a  
fence,—

But an ambulance down  
in the valley.

"For the cliff is all right  
if you're careful,"  
they said,

"And if folks ever slip  
and are dropping,  
It isn't the slipping that  
hurts them so much,  
As the shock down be-  
low—when they're  
stopping."

So for years (we have  
heard), as these  
mishaps occurred,

Quick forth would the  
rescuers sally,  
To pick up the victims  
who fell from the

cliff,  
With the ambulance down in the val-  
ley.

Said one, in his plea, "It's a marvel to me  
That you'd give so much greater atten-  
tion

To repairing results than to curing the  
cause;

You had much better aim at prevention.  
For the mischief, of course, should be  
stopped at its source—

Come, neighbors and friends, let us  
rally.

It is far better sense to rely on a fence

Than an ambulance down in the valley."

"He is wrong in the head," the majority  
said;

"He would end all our earnest endeavor.  
He's a man who would shirk this respon-  
sible work,

But we will support it forever.  
Aren't we picking up all, just as fast as  
they fall,

And giving them care liberally?  
Superfluous fence is of no consequence  
If the ambulance works in the valley."

The story looks queer as we've written it  
here,

But things oft occur  
that are stranger.

More humane, we assert,  
than to succor the  
hurt,

Is the plan of removing  
the danger.

But the surest plan is to  
safeguard the man,  
And teach him that  
thought is his ally;  
Let's build up the fence  
and try to dispense  
With the ambulance  
down in the valley.

—U. G. I. Company.

## Fool Drivers

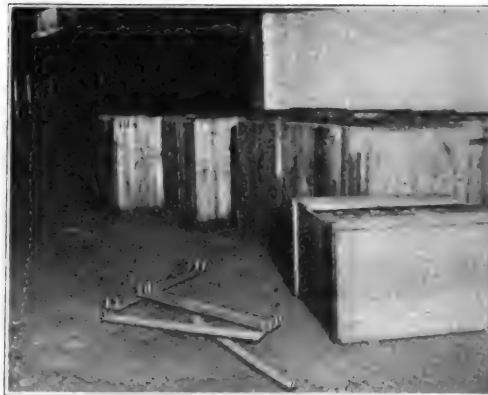
The man who drives a  
motor car where crowds  
of human beings are  
should have his wits as  
bright and keen as is the  
sparkling gasoline. A mo-  
tor is a deadly thing,  
that's sure to slay and  
wound and wing, unless  
the driver's safe and  
sane, possessed of clear  
and active brain. How  
sinful, then, the sodden  
skate who says, "Before I  
pull my freight, along the  
crowded streets to fly, I'll  
drink four fingers of old  
rye." With tanglefoot  
beneath his belt, he goes  
as fast as he can pelt;



CHICAGO TELEPHONE CO.  
CONSTANT THOUGHTFUL CARE  
MEMBER NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL • MEMBER AMERICAN MUSEUM OF SAFETY



## LOOK OUT FOR NAILS!



## A COMMON SIGHT

**I**F you see something of this kind that  
someone else has left, nail the nails or  
get them out of the way of others. Some-  
one may step on them and you may be the  
one. Boards with nails sticking up are dan-  
gerous. Nail wounds often result in blood  
poisoning and lockjaw.

**NAIL THE NAILS!**

DO YOU GET THE POINT?



*Left: You can't well hurt yourself swinging tools like this, but you can very easily cripple a chum.*

*Right: An awl and two screw drivers ready to make trouble when the owner stoops.*



*Right: A man pushed a wire through a sleeve—like this—and the wire pierced his hand between the first and second fingers.*



*Nails,  
Nails,  
Nails,  
Nails,  
Nails,  
Nails,  
Nails!*



*Man on ladder dropped hammer. Man bracing foot of ladder left post to pick it up. Half way to hammer the ladder slipped.*

his eyes distorted by old booze, the course of safety he won't choose. In haste to get to other bars, he knocks the wheels from passing cars, and makes the dodging walker swear, and kills a lawyer here and there. He is a messenger

of death; and any man whose dark blue breath suggests long sessions at the bar should never run a motor car. If "Safety First" is what you mean, you can't mix gin and gasoline.—Walt Mason, the well known poet.

### Preventable Accidents

Operator working at board got up from her chair to turn a switch; while she was doing this her chair was removed by the supervisor. When operator attempted to seat herself again she fell to the floor.

THIS ACCIDENT MIGHT HAVE BEEN PREVENTED BY THE OPERATOR FIRST LOOKING TO SEE THAT HER CHAIR WAS IN PLACE, OR IF THE SUPERVISOR HAD WARNED THE OPERATOR WHEN SHE REMOVED THE CHAIR.

Installer was running a drop and in stepping off a roof on to a ladder, the ladder slipped on ice, causing the installer to fall to the ground, spraining his left ankle.

WHEN USING LADDERS IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THE FEET OF THE LADDER ARE SECURELY PLACED. IN THIS CASE, HAD THE LADDER SPIKES BEEN PROPERLY PLACED IN THE ICE, THE LADDER WOULD NOT HAVE SLIPPED.

Installer was truing up a length of angle iron by hammering same, when the hammer struck a chain which was hanging from the ceiling. The chain swung upward and struck the installer above the left eye.

WHILE THE INJURY IN THIS CASE WAS OF A MINOR NATURE, IT MIGHT HAVE COST HIM THE LOSS OF AN EYE. CAREFUL OBSERVATION OF THE SURROUNDINGS WOULD HAVE PREVENTED THE ACCIDENT.

A switchboard man was making the rounds pulling the watch service boxes, when he tripped on a piece of jumper wire.

ORDERLINESS HERE WOULD HAVE PREVENTED THIS ACCIDENT. THE JUMPER WIRE SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN LEFT LYING AROUND ON THE FLOOR.

Line installer was working in an alley repairing drop wires, and in descending from a ladder he stepped on a nail projecting from a piece of wood lying in the alley.

A LITTLE OBSERVATION ON THE PART OF THE INJURED PERSON BEFORE HE STARTED UP THE LADDER WOULD PROBABLY HAVE PREVENTED THE ACCIDENT. IF HE HAD OBSERVED THE BOARD WITH THE NAIL PROTRUDING, HE COULD VERY READILY HAVE TURNED IT DOWN OR REMOVED IT OUT OF THE WAY.

Groundman was standing on truck unloading nine duct conduit. In pulling out a piece of the conduit which weighed about 200 pounds, the end broke off, throwing him off his balance, so that he fell to the ground, spraining his right wrist.

EACH PIECE OF CONDUIT SHOULD BE TESTED BY A STRAIGHT-UP LIFT BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO REMOVE IT FROM THE PILE. IF THIS HAD BEEN DONE THE BREAK WOULD HAVE

OCCURRED WITHOUT CAUSING THE ACCIDENT.

Installer was walking through basement and stepped into a pile of hot ashes, burning right foot and ankle.

WATCH YOUR STEP!

### Accident Prevention Trophy

Congratulations are in order for Messrs. O. A. Krinbill of Hammond district, suburban plant; L. V. Newton, shop, construction; and A. Cerney, Canal exchange, maintenance; and their forces, for they occupy first place in their respective divisions in the Accident Prevention Trophy Contest of the Chicago Telephone Company.

The standing of the various districts of the three divisions of the Chicago plant department for the period ending December 31, 1916, is as follows:

#### Suburban Plant

Place	District
1 .....	Hammond
2 .....	Harvey
3 .....	Wheaton
4 .....	Woodstock
5 .....	Aurora
6 .....	Waukegan
7 .....	La Grange
8 .....	Oak Park
9 .....	Evanston
10 .....	Special Estimate
11 .....	Joliet
12 .....	Elgin

#### Construction

Place	District
1 .....	Shops
2 .....	North Construction
3 .....	South Construction
4 .....	Garage
5 .....	Building Cabling
6 .....	Supplies
7 .....	Central Construction
8 .....	Cable Repair

#### Maintenance

1 .....	Canal
2 .....	Beverly
3 .....	Main
4 .....	Douglas
5 .....	Wabash
6 .....	Monroe
7 .....	Central
8 .....	Rogers Park
9 .....	Austin
10 .....	Hyde Park
11 .....	Lake View
12 .....	Lincoln
13 .....	Stewart
14 .....	Wentworth
15 .....	Superior
16 .....	South Chicago
17 .....	Oakland
18 .....	Yards
19 .....	Edgewater
20 .....	Prospect
21 .....	Kedzie
22 .....	Pullman
23 .....	Irving

24 .....	West
25 .....	Calumet
26 .....	Humboldt
27 .....	Lawndale
28 .....	Belmont

Consistent efforts on the part of each employé to prevent accidents will improve the standing of the entire district, as well as prevent unnecessary pain and suffering.

### A Letter from France

Commercial Agent Sidney Butt recently received a letter from T. Hartley Postlethwaite, who might be termed the Chicago Telephone Company's protege at the war front. The letter is dated December 7th but did not come to hand in time for the January issue. It is very interesting inasmuch as it gives an intimate human touch to our thought of life in the trenches with the English army and also from the fact of the personal interest which acquaintance with the writer inspires. Mr. Postlethwaite was formerly a commercial agent in the Chicago City Division. The letter follows:

18 Kite Balloon Section,  
R. F. C., B. E. F.

Dec. 7th.

Dear Mr. Butt: I was just about to write to you when I received Mr. Beseler's letter, for which please give him my best thanks, also for the cuttings—it is very good of you all not to forget me. I think it will be a year on December 10th since I started work for the C. T. Co., but it seems years ago. No, I am afraid I did not manage to call on your brother; I was kept rather busy on this job but still have his address, so may get there in time to come. I am out once more, as you can see by my address—not sorry on the whole, though when I hear the whistle of a Hun shell in the middle of the night and I have to turn out and take shelter, I think of America and wish I was back again. Why they keep these balloons out here during the winter nobody knows. You cannot do any work unless the weather is clear and not windy. Since I have been out we have had either rain, wind or mist, so I have scarcely been up at all. When you do get a good day it is quite interesting, as you can generally see, or rather ought to see, to a distance of about 5,000 yards behind the enemy's front line.

The telephone plays the most important part in our work; we are connected to all the heavy batteries and if they want to shoot on a particular target, and we can see it, we can tell them exactly how their shots are falling, short, over, left or right. The speaking is very bad indeed at times as the wires are not run underground, as a rule, just lying on the ground; sometimes raised on a pole and always subject to be broken by a shell bursting near. Our camp is in a most unpleasant spot which the Huns\* take it into their heads to shell about

\*A term of affection which the English apply to the Germans.

every other day, so far doing no damage beyond frightening us all to death, but we must catch it sooner or later where we are.

At present I am writing from the bowels of the earth, as I am attached to a heavy battery of eight-inch Howitzers just for a little diversion. They make a terrible row and we have batteries to the right of us and batteries to the left of us, so there is plenty of noise, which I am gradually becoming accustomed to. We all live in dug-outs, of course.

My best regards, please, to Mr. Peirce, Mr. Beseler, Mr. Wohlford, Mr. Reed, Mr. Hillard, and the others. Yours sincerely,  
T. HARTLEY POSTLETHWAITE.

### Tale of a Dog

Charles Connell of the city commercial department sold O. W. Krueger, chief clerk, suburban commercial department, a dog, and thereby hangs a tale. Saturday, January 20th, Krueger and son journeyed out to Connell's house at River Forest to get the hound. On arriving at the Connell residence, Krueger and son rang the door bell, Mrs. Connell responding. Mr. Krueger says, "How do you do; I'm O. W. Krueger and have come for the dog." But it seems that Charlie forgot to mention to Mrs. C. that O. W. K. was to call for the pup and Mrs. Connell forthwith concluded that he was the soft-footed village dog-catcher.

After he had shown his credentials and made sundry explanations, Mrs. C. allowed



### ACCIDENT LEAVES PECULIAR EFFECT.

Several weeks ago the second pole south of Seventy-ninth street in the alley west of Muskegon avenue was struck by a large auto truck. Fifteen feet of the pole was broken out nearly as sharply as if cut. The telephone cables, electric light wires and guys held the top of the pole firmly in position till a new pole could be set. This does not prove that poles do not need the lower ends, but it does speak well for our standard construction.

him to enter the house and call Mr. C. at his Chicago office. All troubles were then adjusted, and O. K. and son started for Cicero, afoot. Each had a rope attached to the dog and then went along nicely for three or four blocks. Just as they reached the flat building at Gale and Washington, River Forest, around the corner came a cat a mile a minute chased by a dog. The cat gave a jump over Krueger's dog, Krueger slipped on the icy sidewalk, his son let go the rope, and away went the dog. Krueger and son hoofed it back to the house to start over, but the dog had not yet returned.

Mr. Connell held a conference with Mr. Krueger at the office Monday following. From the conversation it is expected that they will try it over again, probably skating south on the Des Plaines River to Riverside, thence to Cicero. The fate of the cat is still in doubt.

### Improvements at Hawthorne

The Hawthorne works of the Western Electric Company are growing. Building additions authorized in 1916 are well under way. Nine buildings are being erected—five of one story each and four of five stories. The net area of these additions is approximately 319,000 square feet, representing an increase of twenty per cent. in manufacturing space. These nine buildings constitute the largest building operation since the original telephone apparatus shops were erected.

### Going Hunting This Spring?

You know the best Hunting is found in sections where Railroads do not penetrate. These Hunting grounds are easily reached with a

## HARLEY-DAVIDSON

The single cylinder Motor-cycle of the hour and Six Horse power.

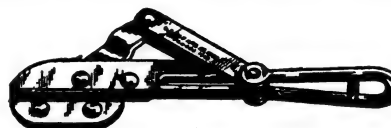
### C. H. LANG

1704 Michigan Ave.



CHICAGO, ILL.

### Genuine Buffalo Grip



Manufactured by  
**BUFFALO MACHINE MFG. CO.**  
1360 West Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y.

Distributed by  
**Western Electric Company**  
OFFICES IN ALL PRINCIPAL CITIES

Note Protection at Corners

### Blake Insulated Staples

Unequalled for telephone and bell wiring. The fibre insulation prevents troublesome short circuits and grounds. 4 Sizes. Pat. Nov. 1900. Write for samples.

**Blake Signal & Mfg. Co.**  
Boston, Mass.



## BURNLEY

### SOLDERING PASTE

Is a perfect Flux. Burnley Paste cannot spill out or drip away like liquid.

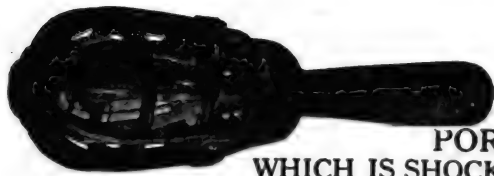


It stays where you put it and follows closely the hot iron.

Send for free sample.

**The Burnley Battery and Mfg. Co., North East, Pa.**  
**WESTERN ELECTRIC COMPANY**  
Distributors





**A HAND  
PORTABLE  
WHICH IS SHOCK-PROOF**

It is impossible to have short circuits, to blow fuses, or injure men or apparatus with a

**BENJAMIN FIBRE HAND PORTABLE**

installed as an indispensable part of telephone equipment. All electrical dealers have them.

**BENJAMIN ELECTRIC MFG. CO.**

New York

CHICAGO

San Francisco

120-28 S. Sangamon St.



**Many Large Concerns**

Because of the safe, sanitary and economical storage and protection provided for parts, tools, material, etc., have adopted Lyon Steel Cabinets as Standard Equipment.

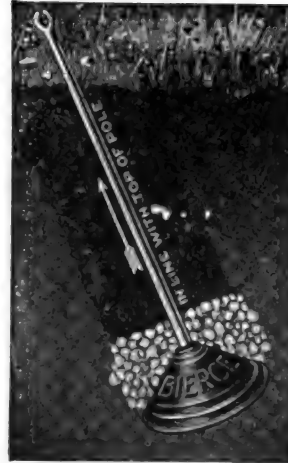
Write for Bulletin 106.



**Lyon Metallic Manufacturing Co.**

AURORA, ILL.

Chicago    Detroit    New York  
Pittsburgh    Cincinnati



Pat. Aug. 19, 1913

**If you are not using  
BIERCE ANCHORS**

we claim that you are not getting maximum efficiency from the money expended for guying.

May we have the opportunity of convincing you?

**Best by test.**

**Increased efficiency of guying.**

**Easily installed.**

**Results uniformly gratifying.**

**Cost very low.**

**Exceptional holding power.**

MANUFACTURED BY

**The Specialty Device Company**  
Cincinnati, Ohio

**WABASH 640**

will put you in touch with personal and experienced insurance service for, getting most reasonable rates and broadest protection for your property, household goods, automobile, baggage and jewelry against fire and theft.

Get our advice—our firm is manager of the insurance department of the A. T. & T. Co.

**MARSH & McLENNAN**

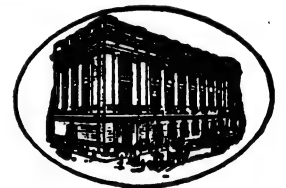
INSURANCE IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

**INSURANCE EXCHANGE  
CHICAGO**

**Discipline and Reward**

**SAVING** money is discipline. But more than that, it is one of the greatest rewards of discipline. Few things which require as little sacrifice bring such definite gain.

If you have never tried it, see for yourself. Open a savings account in this bank. 3% interest paid on savings deposits.



**THE NORTHERN  
TRUST CO-BANK**

N. W. COR. LA SALLE & MONROE STS.

Capital \$2,000,000

Surplus \$1,500,000

## Public Utilities Commission Rulings

### Foreign Attachments

The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania in its connecting agreements, inserts a provision to the effect that no equipment not approved by it shall be used by connecting lines. John F. Stickell and others, who had made such an agreement with the Bell company, installed on their telephones a "knife switch," by means of which they could connect with the Cumberland Valley Telephone Company, a competitor of the Bell company, whereupon the Bell company, in pursuance of another provision of the connecting agreement, discontinued service to said persons, who thereupon complained to the Pennsylvania Commission, asking that service be reestablished.

The commission held that the condition requiring the Bell company's approval of equipment was reasonable and that the company was justified in discontinuing service if it was violated; that a telephone system must be considered as a whole; that every subscriber has a right to good service and is under duty of keeping his telephone at the proper disposal of other patrons of the company, and that anything that may interfere with or impair the service works an injury not only to the subscriber but to all desiring to communicate with him.

### Permit Constituted a Franchise

The mayor and aldermen of Portland, Me., ordered the Postal Telegraph Cable Company to remove its wires and poles from a certain street and to apply for permission to lay conduits in the said street on the ground that the permit under which the poles and wires were erected was invalid and void because it had been signed by the city clerk instead of the mayor and aldermen as required by the statute. The United States District Court held that the order of the mayor and council should be set aside; that the irregularity, if any, in signature to the permit had been made good by long acquiescence on the part of the city; and that said permit constituted a franchise which was assignable and which could not be terminated or substantially modified except for good cause or by virtue of some constitutional power supported by some special reasons in favor thereof, and that said order was radical and substantial in its terms and by its verbiage destroyed what existed and left in place thereof only a right to apply for a new franchise.

### Operation Without Franchise

The Tri-State Telephone and Telegraph Company of Minnesota, having operated for eight years in the city of Thief River Falls without any valid franchise and not having more than 700 telephones in the city, applied to the Railroad and Ware-

house Commission of Minnesota for the issuance of an indeterminate permit authorizing it to continue to operate in said city. It appeared that the city had twice attempted to grant a franchise to the petitioner or its predecessors but that in each instance the franchise had been declared invalid because of some omission in the proceedings of the city council.

The commission held that it was necessary that a telephone exchange should be maintained in the city and that since the petitioners had shown themselves to be able to furnish satisfactory service they were entitled to continue service and that the desired permit should therefore be issued.

### Connection with Private Intercommunicating Telephone System

The First National Bank of Albany, Ore., installed and equipped its bank buildings with what is known as an intercommunicating telephone system. Prior to such installation the bank had been informed by the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company that said company did not connect its system with a private equipment installed and maintained by private individuals or corporations. Thereafter the telephone company in compliance with the request of the bank installed an individual telephone in a booth, which telephone was to be wholly separate from said private system. The bank, however, later, and without the knowledge or consent of the company, connected its private system with the company's line, and the latter, upon ascertaining that this connection had been made, disconnected its service to the bank and refused to reestablish it unless the connection with the private system was eliminated, whereupon the bank applied to the Circuit Court of Linn County, Oregon, for an injunction to restrain the telephone company from discontinuing service and to compel it to reestablish service.

The court, in its decision, states that the bank is not entitled to an injunction since the telephone company does not undertake to hold itself out to furnish service in the manner or of the character demanded by the bank, and that the company, therefore, had the authority to discontinue its service under the circumstances, as it is not required by law to furnish service in the manner demanded by the bank nor has it made any agreement to do so, and that its refusal to continue service while connection with the intercommunicating system is maintained does not constitute discrimination against the bank, since the company is ready and willing to furnish to the bank service of the same character and at the same rates as it furnishes like service to other persons and corporations.

### Physical Connection

The Blairsville Telephone Company petitioned the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania for an order directing that the Johnstown Telephone Company and the Windber Telephone Company should permit it to make physical connection with the latter through the Johnstown company. The commission held that it can require the making of such connections only where the same are feasible without injustice to either company or substantial impairment or detriment to the service of either, and where necessity exists, therefore, and the different localities involved cannot be communicated with the lines of either company alone, and where such service is not already established or provided for.

The commission states that the term "locality" with respect to the Blairsville company means the immediate territory served by said company, and that the other locality in this case is that of the Windber company, which includes the territory served by that company in the vicinity of Windber, and that since the Windber company has through the Bell Company a connection and interchange of service with both localities and there is no evidence that such connection is not adequate or that public necessity requires a new line the petition must be denied.

### Furnishing Equipment Undesirable

The Missouri Commission rules that:

1. The facts that residents and a banking company wire their premises for special interior service and purchase the equipment under contracts obligating the company in the case "to furnish telephone appliances and connections," and in the other to furnish "main appliances and equipments," and in all cases to attend to maintenance and repairs, do not justify reduced rate contracts which may be given subscribers furnishing sufficient equipment.
2. Subscribers should not be permitted to furnish extension telephones, since in order to insure good and efficient service the company should own all parts of its instruments and be held responsible for their upkeep and service conditions.

### Advance Rental Held Valid

The Wisconsin Railroad Commission makes the following provision:

The exaction of payment in advance for telephone rental for the current month while a credit of one month is extended as to toll charges is not discriminatory, since service rentals do not vary from month to month, whereas the amount of toll charges cannot be ascertained until after the service is rendered.

# YALE



## Yale "Standard" Padlocks

One of the many styles in Yale Padlocks

It is made in sizes from  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. Yale "Standard" Padlock has been a leader for 30 years and is today in wide use throughout the world.

Yale Padlocks, like every other Yale product, bears the name Yale. Look for the name "Yale" on night latches, door closers, house hardware, builders' locks or chain hoists.

Write for "One Hundred and One Uses."

**THE YALE & TOWNE MFG. CO.**

9 E. 40th Street, New York

Western Office: 77 East Lake St., Chicago  
Canadian Yale & Towne Ltd., St. Catharines, Ont.

## The New "Thompson-Levering" Test Set

**TYPE CI-3011. Price \$60.00**

Special Features

1. Impossible to make wrong setting for any test.
2. Impossible to make an error in reading results.
3. Impossible to burn out rheostat to make it useless.
4. Shunt protection for the removable galvanometer.
5. Battery renewal obtainable in any supply house.
6. The instrument is of "Thompson-Levering" manufacture.



A set the telephone world has greatly needed and desired for years, but never available until now. Its low price is the result of special design, quantity production and approved manufacturing methods.

Made, sold and guaranteed by the Thompson-Levering Company who are the producers of the highest grade testing instruments which are standard with all of the largest public service corporations in the world.

**THOMPSON-LEVERING CO.,**

**Philadelphia, Pa.**



Klein's New Tool Catalog.

## Seen It?

It's our latest—No. 17. Full of live stuff—a postcard gets it. Send in your name.

**MATHIAS KLEIN & SONS, Canal Station 62, Chicago**



## TELEPHONE CORDS, CORDAGE AND CABLES

We manufacture a complete line of Electrical Wires, Cords, Cordage and Cables for Manufacturers, Jobbers and Contractors.

**BELDEN MANUFACTURING CO.**

2318 S. Western Avenue  
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## QUALITY CORDS

"We Make 'Em"

For

## SWITCHBOARDS

and

## TELEPHONES

**Runzel-Lenz Electric Manufacturing Company**

1751-53 No. Western Avenue, Chicago



## DURAND STEEL LOCKER COMPANY

Steel Lockers, Racks and  
Bins for every purpose.

Chicago • New York



No. A1 Clamp

## BLACKBURN GROUND CLAMPS

Approved by Underwriters.

Adopted as standard by the  
**BELL TELEPHONE COMPANIES**

Millions in Use

Why experiment with others when you can get a proven and dependable clamp for less money? It is made of copper and can be attached to any size of lead or iron pipe in less than one minute.

**BLACKBURN SPECIALTY CO.**

3450 Perkins Avenue

CLEVELAND, OHIO

# Poles

FROM THE  
**Stump**  
TO THE  
**Line**

Largest Stocks  
Finest Quality  
Promptest Shipments

Yards from Maine  
to Washington

**National Pole  
Company**

Escanaba, Michigan

When you want a Lock  
you want the best.

**EAGLE  
LOCK  
CO.**

MANUFACTURERS OF

**LOCKS**

for all purposes.

**WOOD SCREWS**

Factories  
**TERRYVILLE, CONN.**

Warehouses  
**NEW YORK  
CHICAGO  
PHILADELPHIA**

**The Pittsburgh Shovel Co.**  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Manufacturers of  
**SHOVELS  
SPADES  
SCOOPS**

All Styles for Every Class of Work. Our High Grades Fully Warranted

**Telegraph Shovels and Spoons a Distinctive Specialty**

WRITE FOR PRICES  
Suite 1832 Oliver Building, PITTSBURGH

Trade  
**O. K.**  
Mark  
**CUTTERS**



**10-Inch** Clipper Cut Jaws, for 3-16-in. annealed bolts in the thread, or 3-16-in. soft rivets.  
Center Cut Jaws, for 3-16-in. soft rods.  
**14-Inch** Clipper Cut Jaws, for 1-4-in. annealed bolts in the thread, or 1-4-in. soft rivets.  
Center Cut Jaws, for 1-4-in. soft rods.

Insulated Handles if desired.

**H. K. PORTER, EVERETT MASS.**

"Easy," "New Easy" and Allen Randall Bolt Clippers

## NATIONAL

**Double Tube Copper Connectors**

are accurately made. They give less trouble and longer service than other types.



National Signifies Quality in Connectors.

**National Telephone Supply Company**  
2832 Superior Avenue CLEVELAND, OHIO

1916-The Best Year Since We  
Started in Business in 1876



Patented  
**B KEROSENE**

During 1916 the users throughout the country have bought more "ALWAYS RELIABLE" furnaces and torches than ever before. If you don't know the reason, ask some users and they will explain.

When you buy the "ALWAYS RELIABLE," you receive furnaces and torches with patented features, which make them the most practical.

Try Some and Convince Yourself  
Catalog Free on Request  
**OTTO BERNZ**  
Newark, N. J.

**"AMERICAN"**  
**Bituminized  
Fiber Conduit**

provides a practical, permanent and economical underground protective receptacle for your telephone cables.

Write for literature

**AMERICAN  
CONDUIT COMPANY**

East Chicago, Ind.  
140 Nassau St., New York

**ELECTROSE** INSULATION  
TRADE MARK  
INSULATION  
"MADE IN AMERICA"

INSULATORS 1,000 TO 1,000,000 VOLTS  
LOUIS STEINBERGER'S PATENTS

**ELECTROSE MFG. CO.**  
60-72 Washington Street  
66-76 Front Street  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.  
AMERICA  
Western Electric Company Ltd.  
New York and Branches

**Vlchek  
Star  
Drills**

wear  
longest  
and cut  
fastest

**THE VLCHKE TOOL CO.**  
CLEVELAND, O.

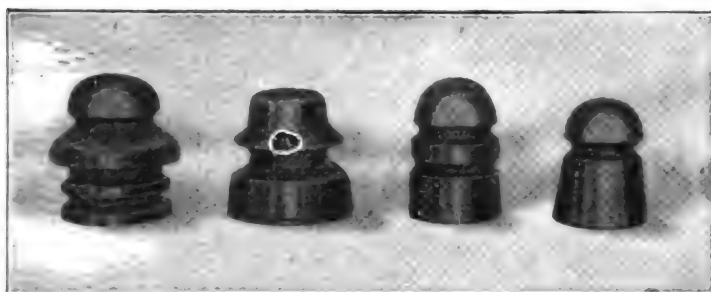
**ADVERTISING**

In the

**Bell Telephone  
News**

**BRINGS  
RESULTS**





## THOMAS Telephone Insulators

High voltage power lines everywhere use porcelain insulators on account of their long life and reliability. Porcelain is stronger than glass, and also less hygroscopic. Why not secure these advantages for your telephone lines by specifying THOMAS porcelain insulators.

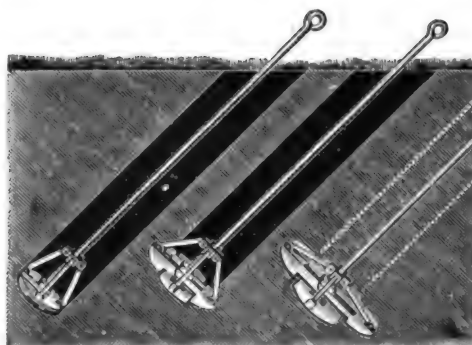
Manufactured by  
**The R. Thomas & Sons Co.**  
EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

Distributed by  
**Western Electric Company**  
INCORPORATED  
Offices in all principal cities

## EVERSTICK ANCHORS

are used by every Bell Telephone Co. in the United States except one. We feel this one has made a mistake. Lighting Companies and Electric Railway Companies not using Everstick Anchors have also made a like mistake, for there is but one best Anchor.

**THE EVERSTICK ANCHOR CO.**  
ST. LOUIS, MO.



1 2 3  
Fig. 1—Represents Anchor Placed at bottom of hole.  
Fig. 2—Partially Expanded. Fig. 3—Fully Expanded.

## TELEPHONE WIRE

We Guarantee  
Greatest Efficiency  
Longest Life  
Most Satisfactory Service  
Lowest Cost of Up-keep  
In the Use of our wire.



**Write for FREE SAMPLE  
Make Test and Comparison**



Approved by Leading Institutions of Technology and Telephonic Science. Handled by most representative Jobbers and Supply Houses.

**Indiana Steel & Wire Co.**  
Muncie, Indiana

## DIAMOND CRIMPER

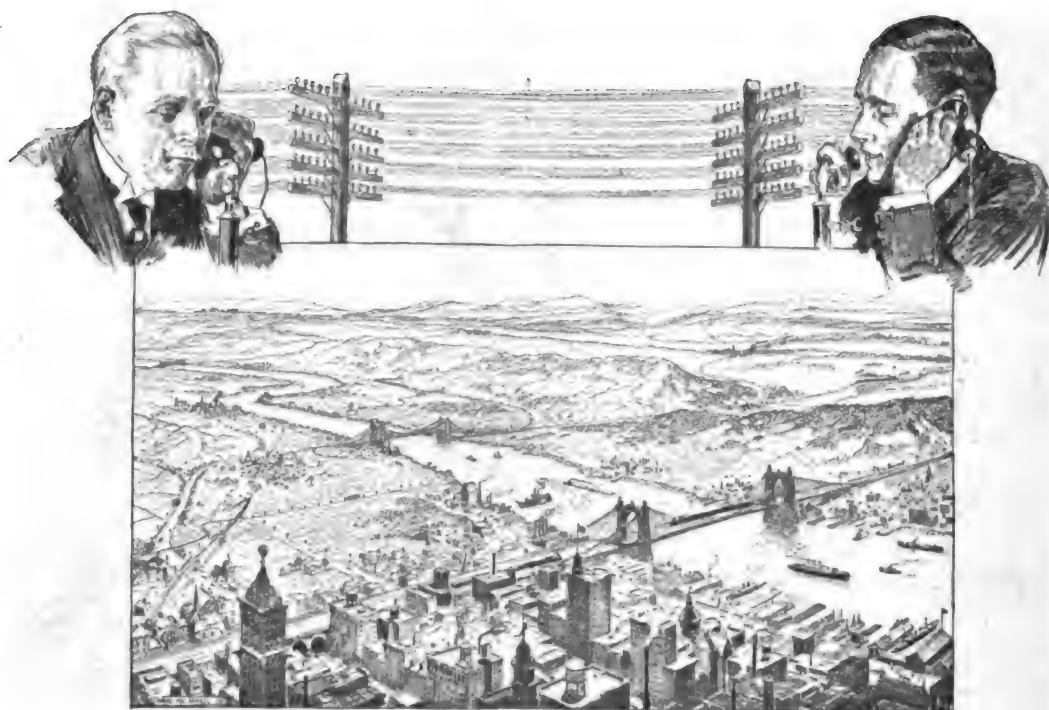
**For Securely Crimping Aerial Rings  
to Suspension Strands**



**Enormous Power**

Convenience in operation is one of the principal points considered in the design of this tool. Each tool furnished with three sets of case hardened jaws to suit different diameters of messenger strand.

**Diamond Expansion Bolt Company**  
Manufacturers of Diamond Specialties  
90 West Street, Cor. Cedar, New York City



## A Bee-Line to Everyone

Straight as the bee flies and quick as though caught by lightning the voice in the telephone carries near and far over this Nation.

This marvelous instrument is the pre-eminent vehicle of speed and speech. Railroads cover the country, but your traveler often must alight with bag and baggage and change trains to get to a given point. Railroads reach cities, towns and villages. The telephone reaches the individual.

The telephone offers continuous passage for the voice and unbroken connections to the uttermost places because it is a united System co-ordi-

nated to the single idea of serving the entire people of this country.

It has been a powerful factor, along with the transportation systems, in the magnificent achievements of the United States—helping to prepare the way where latent possibilities of mines, forests and farms were to be developed.

The continued growth of our national prosperity depends in a great measure upon the maintenance and continued growth of the utilities which furnish the means of intercourse and interchange. They are the indispensable servants of the individual, the community and the entire nation.



**AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY  
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES**

*One Policy*

*One System*

*Universal Service*

# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS



# Bell Telephones

AND CONNECTIONS

## In the Territory of the Central Group of Companies

FEBRUARY 1, 1917

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Connected</u>	<u>Total</u>
ILLINOIS	652,084	282,747	934,831
OHIO	241,314	226,557	467,871
INDIANA	114,519	220,689	335,208
MICHIGAN	258,555	84,079	342,634
WISCONSIN	<u>171,617</u>	<u>149,251</u>	<u>320,868</u>
	1,438,089	963,323	2,401,412



# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

ONE POLICY

UNIVERSAL SERVICE

ONE SYSTEM

Volume 6

DETROIT, MICH., MARCH, 1917

Number 8

## The Month in Michigan

News Notes and Personal Items of Interest

Julius H. Moeller, Correspondent, Detroit

### Detroit District

Edwin S. True, formerly in charge of electrolysis work in the central group, has been transferred to Detroit, taking a position in the engineering department. He succeeds Dudley Keyes, who was transferred to the offices of the A. T. & T. in New York some time ago. Mr. True will have charge of the electrolysis and high tension work throughout the state.

The Girls' Social Club gave another one of its popular dancing parties Friday evening, February 9th. Over one hundred people were in attendance, most of them employes of the telephone company. The girls planned a sleigh ride for the following week, but the breath of springtime came too soon and frustrated their plans.

R. P. Jones, a clerk in the collection department, has taken a position in the production department of Towar's Creamery. He plans to follow up the creamery business, his father having been engaged in it for twenty-three years.

V. E. Sacre of the collection department was called to Shelbyville, Ind., the latter part of February by the death of his grandmother. She died at the age of 94 years.

Miss Grace Cornell, disconnect clerk, suffered a severe attack of pneumonia the latter part of January and was compelled to be absent from duty over a month. At this writing she is reported sufficiently improved to be able to sit up a short time each day.

When Miss Pauline Vernier resigned her position in the collection department the middle of February it became known that she had ceased to be Miss Vernier about five months ago. Last October she was united in marriage to James Graham, employed by the Studebaker Corporation. The marriage was kept a secret during the intervening months.

Another secret was spoiled about the middle of February when friends of Earl Curtis, tester at the Grand, learned to their great surprise that he had quietly slipped into the ranks of the Benedicts New Year's day. Mr. Curtis began the new year by taking unto himself as a bride Miss Lorena McCormick of Laporte, Ind. The

wedding was solemnized in the presence of immediate relatives at the home of the bride, but others were kept in ignorance of the affair for some time after. They are residing at 470 Brainerd street.

"Line's short in the pig" reported Neil Shupe, trouble man at the Grand office, recently when sent out to investigate a case of trouble. That was a new one on the experienced telephone man who took the report. Reluctantly he asked for a more detailed explanation, wherein it developed that a big porker had been laid against the telephone wires in a meat market, causing the line to go out of service. Grand employes had a good laugh over Shupe's apt and ingenious expression.

Miss Marion Burrill, head nurse for the telephone company, left the latter part of February for Lake Worth, Fla., near Palm Beach, to spend a leave of absence of several weeks. She was accompanied by Miss Palmer, also a company nurse.

The Cadillac girls mourn the death of Miss Mary Liskey, a B operator. Miss Liskey died January 29th following an illness of rheumatism of the heart. She had been in the employ of the company the last four years and had always been faithful in her attention to duty.

### Eastern District

Miss Clara Lau, toll operator at the Ann Arbor exchange, took a short vacation in February from her long and faithful service with the company and made glad the

heart of a progressive young man. It's Mrs. Emery Easton now, if you please.

Miss Dorothea Folkerts of Marine City has taken a position as stenographer and clerk in the commercial office at Ann Arbor.

Miss Elsie Sheave, who has proved herself a very dependable operator in the local room at Ann Arbor, surprised her co-workers recently by participating in a little quiet wedding. Her new name is Mrs. Alfred Muzzco.

Ray Rogers, formerly stockman at Ann Arbor exchange, has been installed as night switchboardman.

Merle Goodell recently returned from the Mexican border, where he has been serving as quartermaster sergeant of the Ann Arbor company. He has entered the telephone business determined to get to the top. Ann Arbor employes welcome him to the ranks and wish him success.

### Grand Rapids District

Bernice E. Loomis, former Grand Rapids long-distance operator, was married January 1st to Leon Pierce of Howell. The young couple are residing in the groom's town.

During the month of January three conferences were held in the Grand Rapids exchange to discuss the work of all departments with the end in view of promoting more satisfactory service to the public.

Miss J. E. Emmer, cashier at the Grand Rapids exchange, was confined to her home for a week on account of illness.

Miss Josephine Voet, toll operator at Grand Rapids, has been promoted to toll supervisor.

The Misses Bowes, Shangraw and McLaughlin entertained with a kitchen shower at the home of Miss McLaughlin in Grand Rapids in honor of Miss Dorothy La Brenz, whose marriage to Thomas Sullivan occurred last month.

Miss Mildred Cadwell of the Grand Rapids exchange resigned to be married February 1st.

Miss Stella Girard, night operator at Holland, resigned to be married. She will

### Our Front Cover.

The manner in which engineers and commercial, traffic and plant representatives have solved one of the big big-city problems of the telephone business is explained in a special article in this issue on the Telephone Order Table. Our front cover shows such a table in use in the commercial headquarters of the Michigan State Telephone Company in Detroit.

move to China, where her husband is a missionary.

Miss Violet Curtis, toll operator at Grand Rapids, was transferred to Reed City, where she became chief operator on February 1st.

Miss Louise Pfister, operator at Grand Rapids, died January 30th. Miss Emma Palmer, chief operator, and Miss Violet Feters, from the Main office, were among the pallbearers.

Miss Margaret Verdonk, pay station assistant at the Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, died January 18th, after an illness of eleven weeks. Misses Emma Palmer, Charlotte Cowens, Margaret Lee, Marion Weaver, Mary VanDeVisse and Blanche Berry, friends from the Main office, served as pallbearers.

Miss Marie Mittlestaedt, toll instructor at Grand Rapids, returned January 21st, after spending two weeks at the instructors' school in Detroit.

Miss Mayme Peters, toll operator at Grand Rapids, spent a two weeks' vacation in South Bend, Ind., with friends. Cutter riding and ice skating were her main pastimes.

Two operators' meetings were held January 17th. Operators from three exchanges were present, making a total attendance of ninety-eight. Operating conditions and routines were discussed, after which light refreshments were served.

On January 19th a plant conference was held for the discussion of trouble routine. Each case of complaint will be dealt with individually and no effort is to be spared to satisfy the subscriber. On January 30th another conference was called on the subject of codes. Valuable light was thrown on these problems at both of these meetings.

On January 25th a conference of twenty people representing each department was held. This dealt chiefly with employees answering calls from the public. Complaints were considered from all angles and thoroughly discussed.

### Jackson District

Thirteen of the Battle Creek girls gave Clara Newbaum a delightful surprise party on January 17th, it being her eighteenth birthday. Each girl took a present to help her fill her cedar chest. The evening was spent with games and music furnished by Mrs. Conner and Miss Canniff. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Newbaum. Those present were Misses Bonibel Weekes, Mildred O'Grady, Mildred French, Josephine Canniff, Catherine Frantz, Grace Hunter, Natalie Elston, Ruby Dyer, Hazel Feeney, Lillian Cartledge, Bertha Conner, Daisy Macey and Margaret Watson.

A pleasant evening was spent on January 29th at the home of Miss O'Grady in Battle Creek in celebration of her nineteenth birthday. She received many beautiful presents. The girls present were Misses Lillian Cartledge, Inez Holcomb,



IRVING G. CONRAD.

Newly appointed manager at Bellevue. Mr. Conrad, before his appointment to his present position, was successively wire chief at Hillsdale, line repair foreman for the Consumers' Power Company, and temporary foreman over Western Division of Dams, at Otsego. He was for a short time in the telephone service at Grand Rapids just prior to his recent appointment.

Anna Miller, Mildred French, Gertrude Roberts, Joy Bibbins, Margaret Watson, Doris Wilson, Lucille Allen, Daisy Macey, Lewave Clapp, Ruby Dyer, Hazel Feeney and Delphine Sutton.

Mrs. Conner, evening chief operator at Battle Creek, has resigned her position with the company. She is succeeded by Miss Coila Burns. Miss Bernice Fowle, former toll supervisor, was promoted to instructor, and Miss Ethel Gould, toll operator, was promoted to toll supervisor.

On January 25th the Battle Creek toll operators held their conference, at which all the operators were present. After the meeting the girls were invited to the home of the chief operator for a social hour. Music on the Victrola was enjoyed, after which Mrs. Faulkner served a dainty luncheon. Twelve girls were present.

On January 18th the regular conference for local operators was held in the retiring room at Battle Creek. The question box was opened and proved very interesting. Mr. Reiff, traffic supervisor, was present and gave the girls a short talk. Refreshments were served during the social hour which followed.

### Kalamazoo District

Miss Mary A. Wright, chief operator at Coloma, returned to her duties February 1st, from a leave of absence covering several months.

Miss Mildred M. Keigley, relief operator at Coloma, who underwent an operation for appendicitis a few weeks ago, is recovering rapidly.

Miss Georgia A. Rupel, local operator at Watervliet for the past two years, ten-

dered her resignation effective February 15th, to become the bride of S. Smith, a prosperous young farmer near Watervliet. Miss Eleanor B. Bradley will fill the position left vacant by the resignation of Miss Rupel.

The girls of the district and commercial offices gave a dinner on January 31st in honor of Miss Nellie Vanderberg, collection clerk at Kalamazoo. Miss Vanderberg has resigned in order to take a course in the Post Graduate Hospital, New York. At the dinner she was presented with an amethyst set ring. Covers were placed for eight.

Miss Leora Blaisdell, formerly with the Wisconsin Telephone Company at Kenosha, succeeds Miss Vanderberg as collection clerk at Kalamazoo.

Miss Cora Sootsman, instructor at the Kalamazoo exchange, attended the Operators' School of Instruction for ten days at Detroit.

Miss Emma Dinkel, toll observer at Kalamazoo, was ill at her home for two weeks in February.

Miss Nilmah Wilson, traffic clerk at Benton Harbor, was transferred February 1st to the Niles exchange to serve as chief operator. Miss Wilson was a very popular employé and before her departure was given a farewell luncheon in the employés' rest room.

Miss Stella Lyle, chief operator at Benton Harbor, attended the Operators' School of Instruction at Detroit for ten days.

Miss Bernice M. Skinner was recently employed at Berrien Springs, succeeding Miss Arloine B. Farley, who has moved to South Bend.

Orville Ross, cable helper at Benton Harbor exchange, resigned February 3d to take up other work.

Miss Mary C. Bellinger was recently employed at Watervliet as a regular operator to take care of the increased traffic.

Miss Alida C. Fletcher has been added to the St. Joseph traffic force on account of increased business.

The exchange quarters at St. Joseph have recently been redecorated and the operators' rest room has been completely refurnished. The operators appreciate the improvements which have been made in their rooms.

The regular monthly plant meeting was held on January 26th with Wire Chief Beall presiding. Safety-first methods were thoroughly reviewed and a discussion of plant hand books was entered into. Inspector Mills of the plant superintendent's office was present.

Miss Emma Peters, toll operator at the Niles exchange, resigned to be married on January 1st to George Dalenburg.

On Saturday evening, January 13th, the operators of the Niles exchange enjoyed a chicken dinner at the country home of one of the operators, Miss Marie Weber. The entertainment of the evening consisted

of music and games, after which the girls were taken home in sleighs.

On January 23d the operators at the Dowagiac exchange enjoyed a three-mile sleigh ride in the country to the home of Miss Marie Taylor. A good chicken-pie dinner was ready for the girls upon their arrival.

A birthday party was given in honor of Miss Hazel Ferrel, chief operator, and Miss Myrtle Stowe, supervisor, on the evening of February 8th. Each of the honored ones was presented with a ring as a birthday remembrance.

N. S. Van Horn, wire chief at Dowagiac, attended a plant meeting in the manager's office at Benton Harbor. The purpose of this gathering was to go over the new Hand Book and other code numbers and account numbers for the benefit of daily work reports sent in to the plant superintendent's office.

The operators at the Portland exchange gave a sleigh ride party on the evening of February 10th. About thirty were present. They drove about five miles into the country to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Woodens, where they were served with refreshments. The party was considered a great success.

Miss Ina Powell, toll operator at Kalamazoo, was operated on in Borgess hospital, February 5th, and is doing nicely.

### Lansing District

Miss Bessie Hilliker, local operator at Grand Ledge, has returned to her home after five weeks spent in the hospital at Lansing, where she underwent an operation for appendicitis. Miss Hilliker will not be able to return to her duties before the first of April.

Miss Wilma Denel has accepted the position of relief operator at Grand Ledge.

Miss Agatha Moldenhauer, chief operator at Holt, has been transferred to the Mason exchange. Mrs. Iva Chandler, operator, succeeded Miss Moldenhauer and Mrs. Bertha Welch succeeded Mrs. Chandler as operator.

Miss Julia Abramson, chief operator at Howell exchange, has again resumed her work after an illness of two weeks.

Miss Florence Longthorne is the new assistant chief operator at Howell, succeeding Miss Frances Hall.

C. Alex. Kramer has been appointed district traffic chief of the Lansing district, a position recently created. He assumed his new duties the latter part of February. Mr. Kramer is a native of Oil City, Pa. He had his first telephone experience in that place, entering the commercial department of the company operating there in 1912. In 1914 he determined to get some experience "on the road" and accepted a position with a Rochester jewelry concern as traveling salesman. Experience proved that his first choice of occupation was best and he re-entered the telephone field in August, 1915, taking a position in the traffic department



O. J. JEREMY.

Recently appointed manager at Milan. Mr. Jeremy was formerly a lineman, having entered the employ of the Michigan State Telephone Company September 1, 1913.

of the Michigan State Telephone Company. Since then he has been located in Detroit.

### Marquette District

The operators' rest room and the operating room at Calumet have been redecorated.

Miss Margaret Amell has been added to the Gwinn operating force, due to the placing of this exchange on a six-day week basis.

Miss Beatrice Boyer joined the Marquette operating force on January 29th.

Miss Arbutus Sweeney, night operator at the Marquette exchange, resigned Feb-



ARCHIE C. CLARK.

Recently appointed manager at Eau Claire, Mich.

ruary 1st to go to Detroit. Miss Dalbec, formerly an operator at the Marquette exchange, has been added to the force there to fill the vacancy caused by Miss Sweeney's resignation.

William Kern has accepted a position as lineman at the Ishpeming exchange.

The Blue Bell bowling team at Marquette won the first series in the league by taking twenty-four out of thirty-three games. The team averaged 900 pins per game. The highest match was 2,915 pins. Mr. Noel led the league in individual average with 192 pins. The second series of games has begun.

A. R. Kyte, formerly cableman of the Marquette district, has been appointed wire chief at Calumet.

Dean Annis, assistant cableman of the Marquette district, has been promoted to cableman of the district.

M. Roberts, who has been foreman of the Marquette district temporary crew, has been appointed local testman at Marquette.

### Petoskey District

On February 10th, at 6:45 a. m., fire broke out at the Briny Inn hotel at Manistee in which the telephone company had pay station and P. B. X. switchboard, with telephone sets in all of the rooms. The hotel was completely destroyed, at a loss of about \$110,000. The telephone company lost fifty-nine subscribers' sets. The switchboard, booth and pay station on the first floor were saved. This is a great loss to Manistee as the Briny Inn was the best hotel in the city. The fire was a hard one to combat on account of the extreme cold weather. The thermometer registered at the time of the fire at about twenty-five below zero. No definite plans have been made for rebuilding the hotel.

Repairs have just been completed by Foreman Morseman and crew on circuit No. 2300, between Bear Lake and Arcadia. Approximately 100 trees were trimmed and new insulators and cross arms were placed on the lead, putting it in splendid condition.

Miss Mae Neeson has been appointed chief operator at the Elk Rapids exchange. She succeeds Izoria Fairbanks, who became Mrs. Harry Holmes February 6th. May Olson has taken Miss Neeson's place and Mary Hunt has been appointed the new relief operator.

The Riggsville Roadway Company has increased service by adding one new circuit of about twelve miles and seventeen new stations, making a total of forty stations connected on the company's two circuits.

On January 28th a fire was discovered in the attic of John Burkholder's residence at South Boardman. R. V. Sanford, manager at South Boardman, realizing the need of quick action, grabbed the fire extinguisher near the switchboard and hastened to the scene. First aid methods were at once applied and when the village fire ap-

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paratus arrived Mr. Sanford had the fire practically out.

Ten new contracts for farm-line service have been secured at the Fife Lake exchange.

Most of the exchanges in northern Michigan showed a decided increase in toll traffic during February, due to the impaired train service. The severe storms and exceptionally cold weather made it necessary for many trains to abandon their schedules.

C. A. Kramer of the division traffic superintendent's office was in the Petoskey district during January making an inspection of all exchanges.

The Fountain exchange is being moved from its present location to a building recently purchased by the manager, Mrs. Edyth Billings. It will now be in a permanent location. Foreman Hayward of the construction department and his crew are doing the outside work, and the equipment supervisor's force is taking care of moving the switchboard and apparatus.

### Sault Ste. Marie District

On the evening of January 13th the employees of the Sault Ste. Marie exchange enjoyed a good sleigh ride, after which they were very pleasantly entertained by Miss Queenie McNeill and Mrs. Harry Lyons at the latter's home on Bingham avenue.

Miss Lottie Gerrie, chief operator at Sault Ste. Marie, returned February 19th from a two weeks' vacation. During Miss Gerrie's absence Miss Mary Vaughn took over the chief operator's duties and Miss Cecelia Malloy, a former operator at the Soo exchange, was employed temporarily.

Miss Margaret McLay is a new operator at the Soo exchange and Miss Helen Kitchen entered the service at St. Ignace exchange on February 1st.

### Port Huron District

Miss Allie Lindquist of the Traverse City exchange was absent from her duties for a few weeks on account of illness in her family.

Miss Ella Schroeder, assistant cashier at the Port Huron exchange, was ill with the grip during the week of January 23d.

The interior of the Port Huron exchange building has recently been redecorated and the appearance of the offices is greatly improved.

Wire Chief George McCoucha of the Port Huron exchange was absent from his duties during the latter part of January because of illness.

Fraser Lee, a Port Huron switchboardman, is wearing a smile that won't come off. Why? A new "operator" arrived at his home on February 6th.

On Tuesday evening, January 16th, the Misses Nina and Gertrude Mallory, local operators at Port Huron, entertained a number of telephone girls and their friends at a sleighing party. After enjoying about

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BOWLING TEAM AT MARQUETTE.  
Sitting, left to right—A. Archambault, E. Simmons, J. Cleary. Standing, left to right—J. Murphy, Ishpeming; H. Noel, Negaunee.

two hours of this sport, the party assembled at the Mallory home, where an enjoyable time was spent in music and games, after which a delicious lunch was served.

Miss Hazel Storey, toll operator at Port Huron, was absent from her duties the latter part of January on account of illness.

Misses Verna Richmond, Gladys Hayward and Lila Mathewson have accepted positions as local operators at the Port Huron exchange.

Miss Zella McLeod, evening chief operator at Port Huron, was absent during the week of January 12th on account of illness.

Miss Sadie Needham, chief operator at Port Huron, was taken ill on January 18th and was absent from duty about a month.

### Plant Meeting at Flint

The banquet room of the Dresden Hotel at Flint, handsomely draped with the Stars and Stripes, was the scene of a brilliant gathering of the plant employees at seventy-three on the evening of February 1st. The occasion was a dinner given by the company to the employees in celebration of the large net gain that was made in stations during the month of December.

Early in December District Manager H. R. Mason in conference with Manager Hardy stated that he would like to see 6,100 stations in service in Flint by December 31st. To accomplish this meant a net gain of 371 stations. A start was immediately made and, by the cooperation of the district and division offices with the local manager, a net gain of 389 was effected, or eighteen more than the number required to make the 6,100 stations. It is not expected that this record will be broken for some time by exchanges outside of Detroit.

Previous to the dinner an informal meeting was held in a spacious room on one of

the upper floors of the hotel. R. V. Hurlbut, division plant supervisor, gave a short talk on plant accounting and exchange maintenance.

The dinner itself was arranged by Manager Hardy, who acted as toastmaster. The program as well as the dinner proved itself to have been planned by one who knew his business from start to finish.

### Bowling Team at Marquette

The Blue Bell bowling team of Marquette, whose photograph appears on this page, is composed of five leading employees of the Michigan State Telephone Company.

E. Simons is captain and anchor of the team.

H. Noel, the second member, is local manager for the company at Negaunee. He was one of the leading bowlers of the league, finishing with a score of 191.

Next to be named is J. A. Cleary, who ended the series with an average of 115.

The fourth man on the team is E. A. Smith of Flint. Mr. Smith is also a beginner, but his work is promising.

Fifth on the team is J. Murphy, who is rated as the most likely bowler in the village of Lake Angeline. The pin boys seem to get Murphy's "goat."

The story would not be complete without mentioning A. Archambault, faithful follower and booster. Mr. Archambault intended to join the team, but is said to have reconsidered on account of the scruples of Mrs. A., who felt that he ought not to risk his previous good record by association with such a team, although it is claimed to be the most successful ever organized by Michigan State Telephone employees in those parts.

### Plant Meeting at Battle Creek

A dinner party was given the plant employees of the Battle Creek, Marshall and Athens exchanges at the Post Tavern in Battle Creek on Tuesday evening, February 6th. Representatives of the general and division offices, including the construction department, were invited and covers were laid for forty-two.

Manager G. W. Johnson, of Battle Creek, acted as toastmaster. After cigars had been passed and put into service, Mr. Johnson gave a short talk on the remarkable growth in the company's business in Battle Creek, in which he emphasized the important part the plant men had taken in effecting such gratifying development.

B. R. Marsh, division plant superintendent, spoke on the value of service records and the benefits derived from long continuous service records. A. W. Leet, district manager, discussed the relationship between a local exchange manager and his employees. R. V. Hurlbut, division plant supervisor, spoke on specification work and maintenance in connection with drops and interior work at subscribers' stations. Other speakers were C. E. Gardner, assist-



ant general plant superintendent; H. J. Neal, plant inspector; F. Hayden, wire chief; Charles Jones, construction foreman, and Harry Taylor of the commercial department.

After the meeting many of the employes gathered in the lobby of the Tavern and renewed old acquaintances with the visitors from out of town. The evening was well enjoyed by all present.

### Mr. Badour in Accident

The many friends of William H. Badour of St. Joseph will regret to learn that he met with a serious accident early in February, sustaining injuries that will keep him indoors for many weeks to come.

With Mrs. Badour, he was walking along the street car track, as the sidewalks were covered with newly fallen snow. The accident occurred about six-thirty p. m. Mr. and Mrs. Badour stepped aside to permit two street cars and an automobile to pass, not noticing that another street car was approaching from the opposite direction. Both were thrown to the ground. Examination disclosed that Mr. Badour had suffered a fracture of the right leg in two places, between the ankle and the knee. Attending physicians declared that the break was a very serious one. He was confined at Mercy Hospital, St. Joseph, for many weeks. Mrs. Badour sustained some bad bruises, but was otherwise uninjured.

Mr. Badour retired from active work last fall, completing a period of service covering thirty-two years. He was formerly manager for the Michigan State Telephone Company at St. Joseph and later at Dowagiac.

### Fish Company Grateful

Michigan State Telephone Company,  
Wyandotte, Mich.

Dear Sirs: Just a few words of thanks to your manager and employes for the service they gave us this week by installing our 'phone at a time when it was so important to our business.

The writer realizes that you were in a bad condition to install this 'phone, yet you succeeded in getting it to us at the right time.

When you realize that our 'phone was installed complete at noon Thursday and that our entire stock of fish for Wyandotte and Ford City was sold within five hours after the installation of the 'phone, and when I tell you that two-thirds of this business passed over your 'phone service, you may see that I have cause to be thankful to the employer who did the work; also to the central girls, who certainly did excellent work in giving us quick connections.

Please extend our thanks to all concerned.

SUBURBAN FISH COMPANY,  
Per W. C. LYON.

### Splendid Attendance Record

One hundred and one young women employed by the company in the Detroit exchanges scored a perfect attendance record in 1916. The Cadillac exchange made the best record in this respect, having twenty-



EDITH GASSMAN. BERNITA STUMP.

two operators who did not miss a day last year. Main was second with fourteen who were credited with being present daily.

Some of the girls at Detroit have attendance records that are especially fine and which set an excellent example for other employes to follow. Foremost among these is Miss Edith Gassman, an instructor in the Operators' Training School, who did not miss a day in seven years. Unfortunately, the record was recently broken when Miss Gassman was compelled to be absent on account of illness. Miss Bernita Stump, who is doing special work in private branch exchange supervision, had but one absence in seven years, closely rivaling Miss Gassman's record. Following are some other exceptionally fine records for attendance made by Detroit operators:

Miss Hazel Austin, Walnut, has not been absent a day for the past three years.

Miss Anna Kryza, North, has not been absent from her work for the past two years.

Miss Catherine Stackpoole, Walnut, has not an absent mark for the past two years.

Miss Brey, Cadillac, has not lost a day since she entered the service, March 15, 1914.

Miss Thecla Sebastian, Market, has not been marked absent for the past three years.

Miss Victoria Page, Market, has not been absent from her work for the past two years.

Miss Marie Neilson, North, has not an absent day on her record for the last four years.

Miss Beatrice Bower, Cedar, has not been absent since she entered the service in February, 1916.

Miss Verheike, Cadillac, has not lost a day since she entered the service, nearly five years ago.

Miss Eugenia Amsinger, North, has not been absent for even a day for the past five years.

Miss Christine Watt, Cedar, entered the service in February, 1916, and has had a perfect attendance.

Miss Christie entered the service in May, 1914, and she has not been absent a day. She is at Cadillac.

Miss Poyhonen, Cadillac, has not lost a day from her work since she entered the service, October 30, 1914.

Miss Alvina May, operator, Cherry, entered the service August 16, 1913, and has lost no time since she entered.

Misses Emma Rettka and Laura Whalen, East, have not been absent from their work but one day each for the past year.

Miss Emma Smith, night chief operator, Cherry, who entered the service in November, 1900, has never been late and has lost only two days during her service.

Miss Lyda Bloom, supervisor, Cherry, has a record for perfect attendance from 1912 to November, 1916. Previous to this she had lost only two days, having entered the service April 2, 1910.

Miss Anna Kastl, monitor, Cherry, entered the service July 15, 1909, and maintained a perfect attendance up to November, 1916, when she was compelled to remain at home on account of illness.

Miss Ethel Eschman, Main, has not been absent from her work since July, 1909, and for the two years previous to that date had not been absent but for one day. She has, in addition, the reputation of never being tardy.

Miss Estelle Charlean, Main B exchange, who entered the service January 23, 1913, has never been absent a day during that time except for her authorized two weeks' vacation each year, nor has she ever asked for or had a leave of absence.

Three sisters, the Misses Helen Nestlehut, Clara Nestlehut and Esther Nestlehut, entered the Operators' School together, July 16, 1914. Since that time they have not lost a single day from their work except during their regular two weeks' vacation each year. They are all at Cadillac.

### Manager Graham's Troubles

Manager Graham underwent quite an initiation as head of the company's office at Hallsdale, early in February. On the third of the month the heating boiler burned out and this kept the plant force busy all day Saturday and Sunday, providing for temporary heating. Investigation proved that the old boiler was too badly worn out to make repairs possible and a new one had to be ordered. Then came the severe cold of the season, causing considerable trouble to the local and toll circuits. Besides this, the regular business was much heavier than usual, as Hillsdale people preferred to stay indoors and to do their visiting etc., by telephone. On Monday, February 5th, the number of calls handled was 8,103, about 2,000 more than ordinarily.

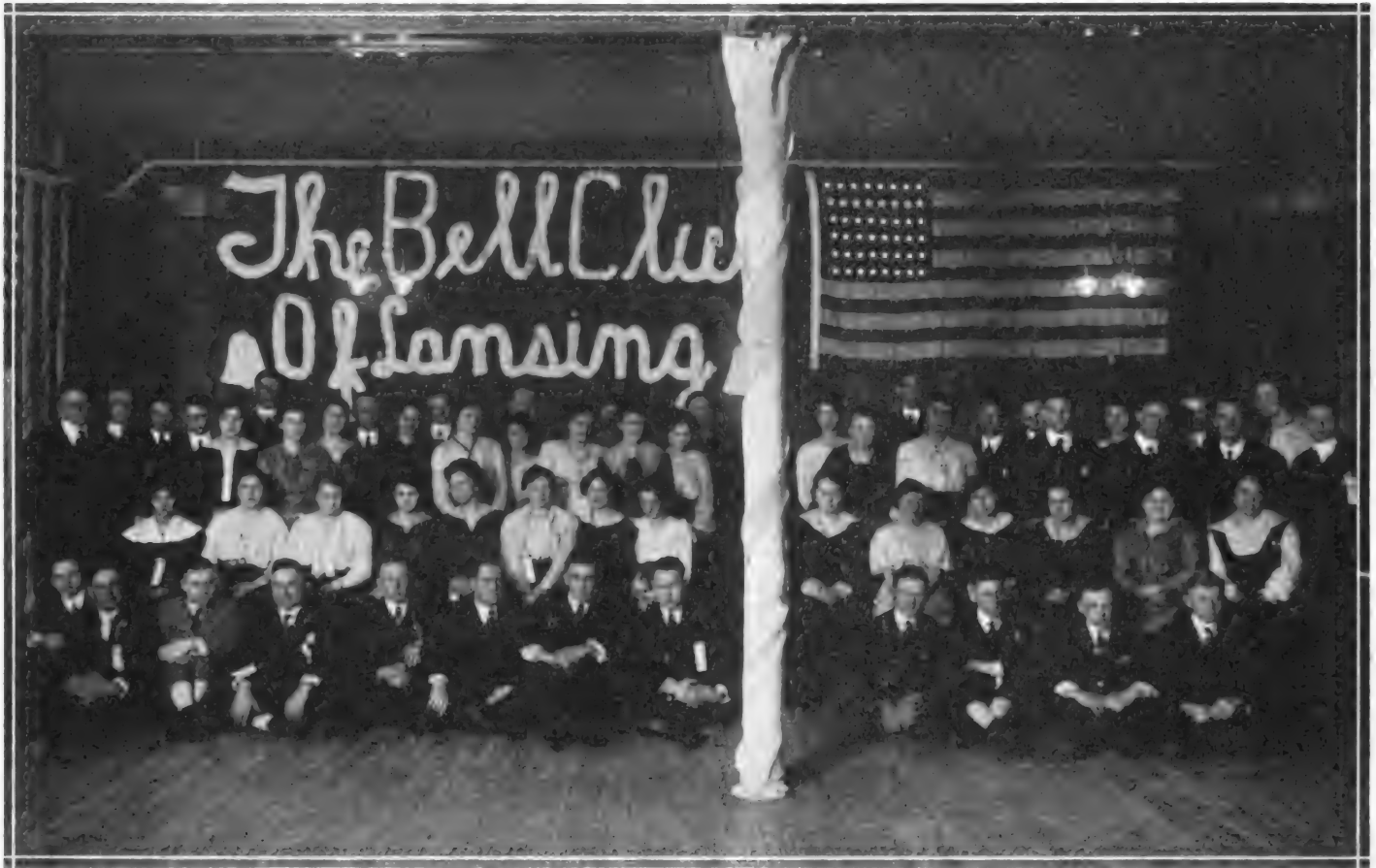
### Bell Club of Lansing

Lansing employes of the Michigan State Telephone Company have organized into a good, live, active association and some great times are in prospect. The Bell Club of Lansing is the name that has been con-

Bell Club has shown considerable activity and the officers intend to keep up the same interest and activity in succeeding months.

The initial party of the club was held Thursday evening, February 15th, at Mac-cabee Hall. It partook of the nature of a

While the orchestra was playing "Home, Sweet Home," concluding the program of the evening, an attractively printed form was passed out among all present, reading: "Just a little Valentine Party, given by the Bell girls and boys, Thursday, the



FIRST PARTY OF BLUE BELL CLUB OF LANSING.

ferred upon this new organization. John A. Holman, manager of the exchange, is president. Other officers are Joe Cunningham, vice president; Tom Shaw, secretary; and J. Ceratt, treasurer.

The officers are apparently determined to show other exchanges in Michigan how to operate a live-wire organization of Bell employes. For a club newly organized, the

card and dancing party with about fifty couples in attendance. Mr. and Mrs. Ray V. Hurlbut and Mr. and Mrs. Neal of the Detroit offices were present.

The hall was prettily decorated for the occasion. Across one end was stretched a huge banner reading "The Bell Club of Lansing." It was the work of Lansing linemen. American flags completed the decorations.

An impromptu program was rendered, consisting of vocal numbers by Mr. Clark, and a vocal and whistling duet by Miss Bernice Gilleo, chief operator, and Mrs. Thomas Shaw, wife of the secretary. Their efforts were greatly appreciated.

During an intermission, refreshments were served, consisting of sandwiches, coffee, cake and ice cream.

fifteenth of February, nineteen seventeen. We hope you've had a good time and that we will meet you at our next." A verse of Auld Lang Syne followed, which was sung by the entire company at the close of the dance and before starting for home. All present agreed that the party was a huge success and all were enthusiastic for the Bell Club of Lansing.



THOMAS SHAW. J. CERATT.  
Secretary and Treasurer of Blue Bell Club  
of Lansing.



JOE CUNNINGHAM.  
Vice-President.

### Operator's Quick Work

A Diamondale operator rendered meritorious service one afternoon early in February and, by her quick action, probably saved one of the Bell subscribers there a loss of several hundred dollars.

The operator was notified that a house was afire. She hastily summoned a bucket brigade, consisting of about forty men equipped with all sorts of apparatus that could be picked up to fight the blaze. They arrived just in time to prevent the house being completely destroyed. But for the Bell telephone and the good work of a Bell operator, the house would probably be but a mass of ashes and charred timbers.

### Lansing Girl on Roll of Honor

The name of Miss Tillie Smith of Lansing was recently added to the roll of honor of telephone operators who have rendered a notable service. By exercising a little good judgment and keeping her head level in an emergency, Miss Smith probably saved the life of Mrs. Nelson C. Lloyd, 1239 Foster court, Lansing, Thursday morning, February 1st.



MISS SMITH.

In an account of the incident the *Lansing State Journal* said: "The tiny light on the operator's board flashed shortly before noon. To central's query of 'Number please?' there was no answer, but listening closely, the groans of a woman could be heard.

"The call was over line No. 1797, a four-party line. With the receiver down it was impossible to ring other parties on the line. Within fifteen minutes of the time that the groans were heard by the switchboard girl, two plain clothes men from the police department were en route to the four homes on the line, which addresses the Bell office had furnished the department.

"Lying unconscious on the floor, with her hand still grasping the 'phone, the officers found Mrs. Nelson Lloyd. She had gone to the 'phone about to repeat her number to 'Central' and had sunk to the floor. Within half an hour after the light flashed on the operator's board in the Bell office Dr. Francis Jones was at the house attending the woman. Heart trouble was the cause of her illness."

The News congratulates Miss Smith on her splendid service. She has brought distinction to herself and credit to the profession in which she is engaged.

### Office Changes

Another change in office arrangement has been made necessary in Detroit by the growth of the company's business.

This time it was a part of the office force of the Division Commercial Superintendent and of the Paymaster that was compelled to locate in new quarters. The change was made about the middle of February when a force of fifty-three people moved to the third floor of the Gas Office Building, directly across from the Telephone building. Stenographers and typists engaged in handling the correspondence and order writing comprised the greater part of the contingent. This gives the employees located on the main floor of the building proper desk room for the first time in many months.

Still further changes are contemplated, which will leave practically the whole of the main building in the hands of the traffic department within a few months. Announcement was made some time ago that the upper floors of the Brown building, State street and Park place, had been leased and would be occupied by the traffic and auditing departments when alterations were completed. The third floor has been added to the company's holdings. Here will be located the offices of the general manager and staff; general commercial superintendent and division commercial superintendent, State Division. Plans have been made to remodel the building thoroughly. It is expected that alterations will have been completed by May 1st and that thereafter the main offices of the Company will be located in the Brown building. The traffic department has plans for making use of the second floor of the building at Washington boulevard and Clifford street.

The great growth of the business of the Michigan State Telephone Company is shown by the urgent need of more office space. There was a time, not many years ago, when the building at Washington and Clifford had more than enough space in it to accommodate all departments. The first department to be crowded out and compelled to seek new quarters was the Detroit plant. In the summer of 1915 its quarters were established at Kirby and Dequindre. Since then one department after another has outgrown the floor space available until at the present time telephone company offices exist in no less than seven different buildings in Detroit.

### Mr. Slocum Springs Surprise

W. G. Slocum, district traffic chief, left for the home of his parents at Newport, R. I., Wednesday, February 14th, or thereabouts, as nearly as can be ascertained. It had been generally known that he planned to take a vacation the latter part of February, but no one gained the slightest intimation that he was harboring intentions of anything beyond that.

Leaving his assistants in ignorance of his plans, their surprise may be imagined at receipt of a card the day following his departure, which contained the following: "This vacation came at just about the right time. After making all preliminary arrangements, I am taking Mrs. Slocum with me, so that Mr. Orth will not be bothered by having Miss Gibson call for me. Obviously, I had to keep the news from all of you. Expect to be back March 1st and to go to housekeeping as soon as possible."

Miss Gibson mentioned above is a Battle Creek girl, who has made her home in Detroit for some time. Particulars are not available at this time, as the newlives took no one into their confidence. Although taken completely by surprise, the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Slocum are none the less prepared to extend congratulations and best wishes.

### Brilliant Party at Saginaw

On the night of December 24th the employees of the Michigan State Telephone Company at Saginaw gave a brilliant party at the Foresters' Temple. There were more than 300 in attendance, representing all departments of the company. Invitations for the party were sent out to the different exchanges and the connecting companies in the Saginaw district, and there were many guests from Bay City, Flint, Mt. Pleasant, West Branch, Frankenthum and other towns in this district.

The principal entertainment of the evening was dancing, and music was furnished by Martuch's orchestra. Cards and other games were enjoyed in the smaller hall of the temple. During the evening delightful vocal solos were rendered by Miss G. Schuchnecht and Wm. Cabbage.

A large bell was suspended from the center of the ceiling and streamers of blue and white were festooned from this.

The party, which was one of the most successful given by this exchange, was in charge of the following committees:

Executive—H. R. Mason, Miss N. Ferry, Miss H. Dankert, J. Patterson and C. Chandler.

Decor—C. Chandler, A. Fetting and C. Boone.

Entertainment—Miss E. Landskroener, Miss E. Dengler, Miss Marion Schuknecht, H. R. Mason and C. Kennelly.

Patrons and Patronesses—Miss N. Ferry, Miss H. Dankert, Miss M. LaCross, Miss E. Landskroener, J. Patterson, E. Mintline, Miss B. Mars, Miss M. Watkins and Miss H. Dankert.

Refreshments—Misses N. Ferry, H. Dankert, B. Mars, M. Watkins, C. Nivens, O. Beauchne, F. Osterbeck, I. Church, A. Flatheau, M. LaCross and H. Westcott.

### Chief Clerks' Club

The Chief Clerks' Club of Detroit has made a good record during the last few weeks, its members having devoted themselves to some serious study of problems connected with the company's business. Various studies are being made which, it is believed, will make the machinery of the organization between departments run even more smoothly and efficiently.

The committee on correspondence, through its chairman, J. Fred Wardle, presented a report and recommendation for the standardization of correspondence carried on by the company in all its departments. The report was considered at length and adopted in its entirety. It will probably be published in the News at a later date. The committee on filing has also reported through its chairman, Claire J. Petithory. The report was referred back to the committee for further consideration.

About fifteen minutes of the lunch hour are devoted to an address by one of the members of the club. The party giving the

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talk discusses some phase of the company's business with which he is particularly familiar. Mr. Petithory was the first of the speakers under this arrangement. On January 29th he gave a very interesting talk on the company's benefit plan, showing the generous consideration the company has for the employé. Various forms connected with the operation of the plan were presented and its latest features were emphasized. His talk was so interesting that part of the next meeting had to be allotted to him to complete the subject.

Marion J. Hager, supervisor of collections, gave a splendid talk on "Credit" as it affects the telephone company and the public, at the meeting held February 13th. He brought out the necessity and reason for deposits; explained the letter of guarantee which is necessary in case an applicant for service does not wish to make a cash deposit and explained why this letter of guarantee must be signed by a business man in good standing. He also explained the method whereby a subscriber may take over telephone service already installed in his place of business or residence by agreeing to pay one month's rental in advance. The method of determining "credit satisfactory" on contracts for service was explained and also the use of the usual form which an applicant may sign for establishing credit with the telephone company the same as with a mercantile or any other firm. The secretary reported the talk as "very interesting and very illuminating." Mr. Hager has promised to write an article explaining credits for the readers of the News.

Lowell Johnson, chief clerk to Mr. Heywood, read a paper on Service Furnished Under Special Contract, at the meeting held February 19th, which proved very instructive as well as interesting. He explained that the special classes of service most commonly furnished are: Fully talking service; half talking service; short period talking service; public news telephone service and Morse (telegraphic) service. He went into detail explaining these various forms of service of which the average employé knows little or nothing and told how the different circuits are set up. Mr. Johnson showed himself thoroughly familiar with this branch of the company's business.

These talks are proving very helpful and enlightening. Members of the club are looking forward to others scheduled to be given in the near future.

### Repairman Badly Burned

Joe Kosto, a repairman for the Michigan State Telephone Company at Detroit, has learned through sad experience that it is not advisable to enter a manhole while smoking a pipe or cigar. Friday morning, February 2d, he descended into a manhole at Alfred and Rivard streets, in Detroit. A considerable quantity of gas had

collected in the manhole. It ignited as soon as Mr. Kosto entered and a terrific explosion followed. The repairman was badly burned about the head and arms. An ambulance was called and he was rushed to Harper hospital, where he is recuperating at this writing.

### Mr. Smith Joins Engineers

The most recent addition to the staff of the traffic engineer is Roland B. Smith,



ROLAND B. SMITH.

formerly connected with the Detroit plant department.

Mr. Smith graduated from the University of Detroit in 1908 and immediately entered the employ of the telephone company. His experience in the plant department has taken him through all the phases of the work connected with that branch of the business. In his new position, he will assist Mr. Kemp, who has charge of the traffic engineering in Detroit. His experience especially qualifies him for handling the traffic engineering problems in Detroit.

### School Superintendent Appreciates Service

The following letter was received from the superintendent of the Birmingham public schools:

Birmingham, Mich., February 10, 1917.

Mr. John Wrather,  
Manager Bell Telephone Company,  
Birmingham, Mich.

Dear Sir: May I take this opportunity to express to you my appreciation of the service given me by the operators in the Birmingham exchange during my long illness and subsequent quarantine? Such efficient and prompt service as I have had has been a vital factor in my being able to keep in touch with the many details of my school work.

Please convey my thanks to the various operators who have served me, and oblige.

Very truly yours,

CLARENCE VLIET,  
Superintendent of Schools.

### Ann Arbor Letters

Tributes of kindness and of praise have been received at the Ann Arbor exchange verbally and by letter from substantial subscribers with such regularity lately that Manager J. J. Kelly has become accustomed to expecting them. The following are a couple of fair examples:

Ann Arbor, January 22, 1917.

Mr. J. J. Kelly,  
Michigan State Telephone Company,  
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dear Mr. Kelly: May I write just a few words of appreciation for your kindness in having my extension phone installed so quickly? I have received many favors from the hands of the Michigan State Telephone Company, for which I wish to thank you. My service has always been good and in many instances your staff have gone out of their way to be of service to me, all of which is highly gratifying in a public service corporation. Sincerely,

WALDO M. ABBOT.

Ann Arbor, January 29, 1917.

Michigan State Telephone Company,  
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Gentlemen: I wish to say a word of praise in regard to your long-distance operators. I had occasion several times to call long-distance for Detroit, Jackson and other calls and at all times when giving the call and when being called by the operator the courtesy was very noticeable. I wish to congratulate you upon having people of this nature in your employ. I also sincerely hope that you as well as others have noticed this kindness on the part of your employés and that in time they may be well rewarded.

Wishing ever for your success and the success of your kind and gentle employés, I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

G. E. MAURY,  
University Hospital Office.

### The Big Brother Movement

The "Big Brother" movement is one of the best philanthropic enterprises originating in this country in many a day. R. T. White, manager at Grand Rapids, has become interested and is a "big brother" to a youngster of eleven years. Saturday, January 17th, seventeen of the boys visited the exchange. They all seemed to be very much interested, if one may judge interest by the number of questions that were asked. These boys are mostly from the Juvenile Court and are from poor homes and environments. Mr. Linsley, secretary for the association, is taking the boys through the various factories and manufacturing buildings and other commercial institutions in an effort to inspire them with a higher ideal of life than is afforded by their own environment. The telephone company has given him hearty support in this splendid work.



### New Work Started

Following are some of the principal estimates under which work was recently started:

#### Detroit, Ridge Office, Est. M-17006

This estimate provides for aerial cable extensions and replacements in that part of the Ridge office district, north of Superior street, west of Hastings street.

This work will provide facilities for growth and replace open wire in this territory which is rapidly developing into an apartment house district.

A number of direct aerial building connections are proposed and several fused Bell and Home terminals are to be dismantled. The following are principal items of material to be placed:

- 17 poles
- 175 feet 400-pair cable
- 300 feet 300-pair cable
- 1650 feet 200-pair cable
- 1625 feet 100-pair cable
- 3650 feet 50-pair cable
- 950 feet 25-pair cable
- 86 cable terminals

This work will add approximately 370 miles of wire to the Detroit exchange plant. Estimated cost, \$11,017.00.

#### Marshall—Estimate M-16143

This estimate provides for the reconstruction of most of the outside plant at Marshall in order to reduce the large amount of open wire and to put the plant in first class shape for common battery operation. Additional cable will also be placed to provide facilities for considerable more new business. Estimated cost, \$12,402.00.

#### Detroit-Kalamazoo—Estimate M-17007

Estimate M-17007 provides for general repairs to the Detroit-Kalamazoo toll pole line between Ypsilanti and Kalamazoo. The repairs include such work as replacing deteriorated poles and crossarms, resetting poles, straightening poles, pulling old guys and placing new guys in order to put the line in first class shape. The estimated cost is \$18,336.

#### Fountain—Estimate M-17014

This estimate is to cover cost of moving the central office to a new location, the reconstruction of aerial plant and dismantling of all duplicate plant. The exchange is one purchased from the United Home Company some months ago. Estimated cost of doing the work is \$1,106.

#### Benton Harbor—Estimate M-16178

This estimate provides for a pole line and aerial cable extension on Graham avenue on account of the fact that the City of Benton Harbor has made an agreement with the Pere Marquette Railroad Company as to a railroad siding to be built, which necessitates the removal of the telephone plant from the south side of the street to the north side. Estimated cost, \$1,167.

#### Detroit, Main Office—Estimate M-16183

This estimate provides for underground and aerial cable construction in the Main

Office District, Detroit, tributary to the alley west of Cass avenue between Grand River avenue and Bagg street.

This territory is rapidly developing into a heavy apartment house district, and it is proposed under this estimate to make a number of direct underground connections to these buildings and to remove existing circle topped distributing poles.

The following are the approximate amounts of various sizes of cable to be placed:

- 1750 feet of 600-pair underground
- 250 feet of 300-pair underground
- 1100 feet of 200-pair underground
- 725 feet of 100-pair underground
- 825 feet of 50-pair underground
- 750 feet of 25-pair underground
- 325 feet of 300-pair aerial
- 600 feet of 200-pair aerial
- 250 feet of 100-pair aerial
- 1200 feet of 50-pair aerial
- 425 feet of 25-pair aerial

This work will add about 920 miles of wire to the Detroit exchange plant. Estimated cost, \$10,857.

#### Toll Lines—New Construction Work

*Jackson-Grand Rapids:* Work was started January 5, 1917, on Estimate M-16172, which provides for a physical circuit between Jackson and Charlotte; a phantom circuit between Charlotte and Grand Rapids, and for replacing an old iron circuit with new No. 10 iron wire between Hastings and Grand Rapids. These additions involve an expenditure of \$11,567.

*Lansing-Owosso:* Estimate M-16123 providing for a physical and a phantom circuit between Lansing and Owosso was started January 29, 1917. The plans also include general repairs to the line and the total expenditure required is \$8,503.

*Turner-East Tawas:* A new physical and a phantom circuit between Turner and East Tawas are being rerouted between East Tawas and Emery Junction for a distance of nine miles in order to eliminate high tension interference. The total job requires an expenditure of \$8,363 and work was started January 29th.

*Benton Harbor-Dowagiac:* Estimate M-16089 provides for toll line additions and reconstruction between Dowagiac and Benton Harbor and will cost \$11,379. A new circuit is to be added between Dowagiac and Benton Harbor and a new 20-wire line is to be built between Eau Claire and Benton Harbor. The work was started January 12th.

*Mt. Clemens-Port Huron:* General pole and crossarm repairs to the line between Mt. Clemens and Port Huron, involving an expenditure of \$1,908 and provided for by Estimate M-16137, was started January 12th.

*Plainwell-Allegan:* A new physical circuit between Plainwell and Allegan and a phantom circuit between Otsego are to be provided by Estimate M-16110, work on which was started January 1st. The line on Marshall street, Allegan, is to be rebuilt

because of the hazardous conditions caused by the overbuilding of a 40,000-volt transmission line. The total cost of the work will be \$4,451.

### Toll Operator Appreciated

The following letter was received by the Port Huron manager regarding the class of service the subscribers are enjoying:

February 12, 1917.

Mr. J. J. Johnson,  
Michigan State Telephone Company,  
Port Huron, Mich.

Dear Sir: Sunday morning, shortly after seven o'clock, I had occasion to try to locate Mr. S. W. McFarland at Romeo or somewhere along the line between Pontiac and Port Huron. It seems Mr. McFarland had left Pontiac Saturday afternoon in an automobile and had not arrived home Sunday morning and his wife was greatly worried over the fact. She called me and asked me to see if I could locate him. I explained the situation to your long-distance operator and within five or ten minutes I had Mr. McFarland on the 'phone at Richmond. I simply want you to know that I appreciate this kind of service, and I would like to have you extend to the operator, whose name I do not know, my sincere thanks. Yours truly,

LOUIS A. WEIL.

The operator who handled the call was Miss Louise Marengo, toll operator No. 40.

### Construction Department Bowled Over

The long expected bowling match between the construction department and the local plant men took place on January 31st at Benton Harbor. The local team won by a total of 114 pins. R. H. Kanode, of the construction department, made high score, and W. L. Stevens, a local man, made high average. Gilbert Diaz, a constructionist, carried off all honors as low score man with the record of seventy-three pins in one game.

A series of three matches is to be played and the losers are to buy suppers for the victors. To the victors belong the dinners, as some great American has so wisely said.

### Mr. Babbitt Talks

On Thursday evening, February 15th, A. T. Babbitt, chief clerk to the Detroit Division commercial superintendent, spoke to the special student employes.

In his talk he dwelt on the qualities necessary for a good commercial employe. Emphasis were laid on personal appearance and point of contact. Students, on account of their training, are specially prepared to meet the public; added to this advantage they have had experience in various lines of telephone work.

After a discussion on collection and contract matters, each student was request-

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ed to ask whatever questions came to his mind. These questions covered every phase of the telephone situation. A description of the phantom, simplex and duplex circuits was given. The manual, automatic and automanual types of switchboards were explained.

The meeting closed with a short talk on the Employees Benefit fund.

### Through Fire and Snow - or The Tale of a Telephone Man

The following story is the account of the experiences of W. R. Earl, manager of the Boyne City exchange, while attempting to locate a case of toll trouble:

"Toll line No. 2404 was reported open somewhere between Petoskey and Mancelona on February 3d, and I was detailed for the repair work. I went to Boyne Falls on the eight-thirty train and the trouble tested south. The morning train, No. 6, southbound, on the G. R. & I., was reported one hour and forty-five minutes late, so I walked out about two miles to make sure the trouble was not near Boyne Falls. When I came back to the depot the report on No. 6 read three hours late. I went to dinner and when I came back again No. 6 had been annulled.

"In a short time we got a report on train No. 4 as one hour and fifteen minutes late and when it arrived it was over two hours late. We went as far as Elmira and backed in on a siding, where we waited for two hours for a snow plow. We got under way again and I found the line broken at pole No. 2537, one mile south of Elmira. There was no station between there and Alba, so I got off there and went to the Hotel Tuttle for supper, expecting to catch the next train, No. 11, back to Elmira and drive from there the next morning. After supper we called the depot and were advised that No. 11 had been annulled, so I settled down to stay in Alba for the night.

"About this time a traveling man reported that he could smell something burning, and it was found that the furnace had gone dry and was red hot. The clerk went down, intending to turn the water on, but I told him that if he turned water into that boiler in less than two hours he would spoil it. He waited about twenty minutes and then turned the water in. Of course the boiler burst, and, although the concussion was not heavy, it blew the prospects of a nice warm room sky high. The clerk said he would have a stove up in a few minutes, so we sat down and waited—and shivered. He soon came up with the "stove," which was about the size of an ordinary water pail.

"The next morning there were no trains running and the roads were almost impassable, but as I was nine miles from my trouble, I hired a team and driver and started out. When we got to the trouble,

we put the blankets on the team and tied them behind a barn. I borrowed my driver's mittens and went to work. I used the mittens for the ground work, but had to take them off for the pole work. I fastened them in the fence to keep them from blowing away and continued my work. I was working three or four spans away from the mittens, when I looked up just in time to see a man grab them and run. The things I said would not look good in print, but they were effective, for he went only about fifty feet and then he took the mittens back to where he had found them. The rest of the trip to Boyne Falls was uneventful, with the usual waits for trains and snow plows, and when I arrived at the Falls the night train on the B. C. G. & A. was annulled.

"The telephone office at Boyne Falls was closed for the night and it was necessary to ask the dispatcher for the B. C. G. & A. Railroad to send a livery rig to Boyne Falls to bring me home. When the rig arrived I found that the liveryman had sent a foot warmer (the kind that burns charcoal). All went well until we were about two miles out, when we smelled something burning. On lifting the robes, we found them all on fire. This was put out without calling the fire department, and we arrived in Boyne City at nine p. m. Just as we drove into town the fire whistle blew. The fire was in a house in which was a telephone and we went to get it out if necessary. The fire was put out without much trouble and I went home for the night. W. R. EARL.

"P. S.—Nothing has happened since."

### Tree Trimming

*From the Electrical Review and Western Electrician*

In a few weeks the tree-trimming campaigns will make their appearance in many cities throughout the country. Tree trimming is a necessary evil in many localities whether to prevent interference between trees and overhead conductors, eliminate dense shades cast by street lights, or remove possible dangers. Tree trimming is as much a public service as it is an advantage to the utility. And yet, it is often a source of complaint. In some localities it is necessary to canvass the private property owners for permission to cut their trees and then that of the civic commissioners before it is permissible to commence to trim. While this is troublesome, it is generally the quicker way in the end.

Where a utility trims the trees its employees cannot be reminded too often that by their behavior and their work is the utility judged, by the property owners at least. Many owners justly take a pride in the trees along their property, and a feeling of resentment this year may develop into stubborn opposition next year.

The utility public trimming trees will serve the best interests of itself, its patrons and the city it aims to develop by

always practicing consideration for the feelings of others. Making special effort to explain that the trimming of the trees is as necessary for public as for individual good will tend to placate opposition and disarm hostility. And no one thing will do more to allay opposition once and for all than to endeavor to trim the trees well and carefully.

Tree trimming is generally done in the early months of the year, when the tree is undergoing the natural awakening of life, and care should be taken that the trees be left in proper condition for rapid healing, until the bark grows over the wound. In cutting the limb, cut in such a way that the bark, in growing over the cut, will not form a pocket into which water can collect. The spot should be left in a proper condition, therefore, by a knife, and the whole covered by suitable paint. The paint used should be one free from volatile oils, and preferably of a color to harmonize with its surroundings, that the cut may be as inconspicuous as possible. These are small items, but nevertheless very important.

Trees well trimmed and well kept are a source of pride to their owners, an asset to any city and an eloquent testimony to the public utility's policy toward local improvement. Therefore, treat the trees well.

### Or Consult the Directory

"Confound it all!" cried a business man. "I've forgotten my new telephone number. I didn't write it down, because that's an indication of mental weakness."

"What about forgetting the number?" said the other man. "Isn't that mental weakness, too? Is it the number of your home phone?"

"Yes."

"Then why not call up your wife and ask her what it is?"

And without the slightest hesitation the forgetful man called up the forgotten number and asked his amazed wife what it was.—*Exchange.*

### What They Learned

A visitor to a Sunday School was asked to address a few remarks to the children. He took the familiar theme of the children who mocked Elisha on his journey to Bethel—how the young ones taunted the prophet, and how they were punished when two she-bears came out of the wood and ate forty-two of them.

"And now, children," said he, "what does this story show?"

"Please, sir," came from a little girl in the front row, "it shows how many children two she-bears can hold!"—*Tit-Bits.*

### February Mornings at the "Soo"

There's a town in the Michigan State—  
Where the Clerks reach the office at Eight  
And it seems, don't you know,  
When it's thirty below  
We should get a red star on our slate.

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FAREWELL PARTY FOR THOMAS JONES AT HAMMOND, IND.

### Farewell to District Plant Chief

To give expression to their regret at the departure of Thomas Jones, district plant chief, and give him their good wishes for future success, employes in the Hammond district, to the number of sixty, gathered at the Country Club in that city on Monday, January 26th. Mr. Jones had been promoted to a position in the suburban plant department, effective February 1st.

The gathering was in the nature of a surprise. Mr. Jones was invited to a small dinner party at the club, but as he entered the dining room he was confronted by the gathering, ranged on each side of a long table. He was escorted to the place of honor by District Manager O. A. Krinbill.

After the guests had enjoyed an excellent dinner and cigars had been lighted, District Manager O. A. Krinbill opened the evening's oratory by announcing that the dinner had been arranged as a result of the unanimous wish on the part of his fellow employes to honor their departing plant chief. In the course of the next half-hour he called on each guest present for appropriate remarks.

Speeches were short and to the point. It was apparent that Mr. Jones' fellow employes deeply regretted the change. While wishing him a full measure of success in his new position, they offered equal support and coöperation to F. E. Stewart, his successor as plant chief of the Hammond district.

At the conclusion of these speeches and after Mr. Stewart had expressed his appreciation of the kindly spirit toward him, District Manager Krinbill made a short

speech in presenting Mr. Jones with a valuable diamond lodge ring, purchased by employes in the Hammond district as an enduring mark of their esteem and their good wishes toward a departing fellow employe. As the music played "He's a Jolly Good Fellow," guests stood in their places and joined in the chorus.

Although suffering from a cold that had hoarsened his voice, Mr. Jones spoke at length, thanking his fellow employes for their expression of good will and their gift. He made a strong plea that all employes give coöperation to his successor.

Those present were as follows:

W. C. Atwood	D. M. Griesel
R. A. Blais	Wm. Lawson
C. W. Campbell	M. P. Nelson
W. R. Buckner	G. O. Viewg
G. VanSteenberg	Jas. A. Keeley
B. Pennington	Bert J. Wheeler
J. Dent	Guy B. Courtright
R. Gundy	Frank G. Heichel
A. G. Cadwallader	Wm. G. Weber
O. M. Capps	W. D. Eaton
W. A. Werner	B. H. Shuty
R. S. Pennington	E. J. Cliff
L. W. Parsons	L. M. Yochem
R. C. Krenur	C. Yochem
A. W. Kushinsky	S. A. Livingston
Paul Ellenberg	Edw. Detbrener
Leo F. Engleton	Geo. C. Seward
E. L. Young	Jos. Bassino
F. E. Stewart	H. A. Maul
A. S. Sailor	L. L. Knight
O. A. Krinbill	Jos. O. Brock
R. N. Patchen	A. C. Hahn
C. O. Hill	Chas. Newman
A. J. Covert	Clayton Finch

Jas. J. Carroll	John Albertam
H. J. Treen	Lee Whiteman
Wm. F. Lawson, Jr.	M. H. Campbell
G. M. Carroff	B. A. Pratt
M. B. McDaniel	Dr. T. W. Oberlin
Fred Sanger	

After the photographer had made several flashes of the group, some members went to their homes, while others enjoyed the hospitality of the club.

### Speeches by Mr. McGovern

On Saturday, February 3d, W. R. McGovern, chief engineer of the Central Group, lectured before the students and alumni of the Engineering College of Marquette University, of which he is an alumnus. Mr. McGovern was also the principal speaker at the banquet served to the students, alumni and faculty at the Republican House the same evening.

### "Best Man" by Wire

When C. A. ("Dick") Greiner, well-known Chicago bachelor, became engaged to Miss Lucille Storer, a Ziegfeld beauty, Miss Storer did not agree to leave the footlights immediately. She finished the season and then spent the winter in New York. Greiner went East frequently and every day in which he did not see his fiancée he called her by long-distance telephone.

On Thursday, February 15th, the two were married in Jacksonville, Fla. Jack Lait, the well-known newspaper writer, officiated by long-distance telephone as best man.

### Mid-Winter at Margaret Mackin Hall

The extreme cold weather which has prevailed during the past few weeks does not seem to dampen the ardor of the outdoor sleepers, as our sleeping porch is still very much in demand; was so even when the thermometer registered twenty below; and on a recent Sunday morning upon the return of a number of church goers, the text was quoted, "Many are cold, but few are frozen."

The "Belles" at Margaret Mackin Hall jingled the bells at a sleighing party one Sunday afternoon, when thirty of them were driven through the country.

Miss Marie Aschbrenner, who was a pioneer guest at the hall, returned to the city to resume her duties at Belmont office. She was given a surprise before her departure. The tables in the dining room were arranged in the form of a letter A and prettily decorated with narcissus. Many toasts

expressing good wishes were given by the guests and responded to in very hearty thanks by Miss Aschbrenner. "Ashes of Roses," we miss you very much.

Miss A. Geipee of Harrison and Miss Kiley of Wentworth took advantage of the skating on the river and proved to be experts. Many others tried to work up to their perfection and although they all did well, particular mention must be made of Miss Agnes McCarty, who mastered the art.

Miss M. Loughery, Lawndale chief operator, and Mrs. Sallett, Lawndale night chief operator, recent visitors at the hall, sent a very beautiful box of candy to the girls as an expression of thanks for a pleasant day.

One of the unique entertainments at Margaret Mackin Hall was a sleighing party on the river. Sleds for eighteen were hitched one after the other to our faithful automobile and, although suffering a few upsets, we enjoyed a twelve-mile ride.

At a recent party a mock wedding was the principal feature. The participants in the ceremony were:

Bride, Gabrielle Janousek, Wabash.  
Groom, Mary Maloney, Lincoln.  
Bridesmaid, Winefred Dargel, Oakland.  
Best man, Marie Jung, Lincoln.  
Ringbearer, Evelyn Brigham, Hyde Park.

Minister, Cecile Nick, Central.  
The costumes worn by the guests represented many nationalities.

Marie Aschbrenner of Belmont wore the Swedish dress and Nellie Smith of Kedzie was a Scotch Highlander. Other nationalities were:

Dutch girls, Anna Fluscher, Wentworth; Matilda Mueller, Main; Ella Shannon, Kedzie; Hulda Pierson, directory department.

American Indians: Amanda Geipee, Harrison; Hattie Pashcopski, toll; Bertha Benton, Wentworth; Mildred Moscovitz, Humboldt; Henrietta Roerig, toll; Margaret Brock, Oakland.



WINTER SCENES AND SPORTS AT MARGARET MACKIN HALL.

(1) Tired tobogganers. (2) Coaster getting her picture taken. (3) Skating on Des Plaines River. (4) Maiden Lane in February.



## Titanic Struggle Between Choral Clubs

As Described by Our Own  
Correspondent at the Front

Two choral organizations, one recruited from the headquarters clerical and stenographic corps, "hereinafter known" as the clerks, and one from the traffic department, gave a competitive song recital on the evening of February 7th in the club room of the administration building. Miss Nora Loraine Olin was the conductor and under her able and ambidextrous direction, the performance of each class was so good that the umpire found it difficult to decide which one was entitled to the award. After considerable vocal work on his own part, he finally announced his decision in favor of the clerks, whereupon there was an enthusiastic demonstration at the south end of the room where their trenches were located, while a heavy frost settled over the trenches on the north. Mr. Prothero's announcement was made about midway down the program and shortly afterward he made a discreet get-away!

The contest was so arranged that one group would render a selection and then the other would take a fall out of it. The two studies coming so close together made it easy for the referee to keep in mind the tempo, the volume, the tonal quality and the balance, as displayed in the work of each group. At least that's what the referee said and he looked like a reliable man. He said something, too, about *asafetida* or some other Welsh word, but that went *clear* over our heads and we merely laughed because everyone else was laughing and we hated to appear unjocose.

So far as we were concerned, editorially speaking, we rejoiced in the success of the clerks, of course. They belong to our class in the telephone business, hewers of wood and drawers of water; we are low-brows all. Never having come in contact with a more intricate piece of machinery than a wheelbarrow, on feast days and holidays we take our seats in the lower rooms and look with reverential awe upon those who represent the scientific branches of the business. Naturally, then, when crumbs of comfort fall to us on occasions like this songfest, we Thank God for Prothero, who figured up the score!

Seriously, though, young ladies, he had a difficult decision to make. We never could have done it, because when we heard the clerks' crowd sing we just leaned back, closed our eyes and sighed a big, happy sigh and said, "O Boy!" And then, when that traffic squad came loping along the staff over eighths, quarters, half notes and full stops, we closed our eyes again and said, "O Boy," and took another long breath! It was 50-50 with us! We wanted to be, and we think we were, just; as just, in fact, as the "jag" at the funeral, who

broke the solemn silence following the minister's words "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust—" with the plainly audible comment, "Well, that seems fair!"

The program was as follows:

"I Wonder that My Love"...Mendelssohn Clerks.

"To Dreamland," "New Year's Eve"

..... Protheroe

"Who Will Come with Me?".....Gluck

"The Briar Rose".....Brahms

Arrow shows where Mr. Prothero remembered another engagement.

As nearly as we could estimate, there were about 350 voices in the combined choruses. Mrs. Moore marshaled the traffic forces, ably assisted by Mrs. Reagan. Miss Rud and Miss Ryan were active on the clerks' side. Mrs. Peacock was the accompanist. The best of feeling prevailed, even after the decision, each chorus applauding the work of the other as if they really meant it.

To all who participated in the evening's entertainment great credit is due. And this includes the Strong Arm Quartette, which, under the able leadership of R. W. Sullivan, pushed the piano around to various strategic points; also Traveling Auditor Kelly, whose graceful manipulation of what in olden days would have been called an "upping block" (the contrivance by which Miss Olin ascended and descended from the conning towers from which she directed the movements of the contending forces), lent added charm to a period already surcharged with good things.

Among those occupying ringside seats were General Auditor Garvey, Chief Traveling Auditor Kelly and Disbursing Auditor Crunden. At first it was feared that nobody from the auditing department could be present, but it seems that those qualms were wholly uncalled for. Mr. de Peyster was on hand as yell leader for the traffic chorus, while Mr. Arrick performed a similar service for the clerks.

At the conclusion of an interchange of courtesies between Mrs. Moore and Miss Rud and in response to loud cries of "Garvey, Garvey," from all parts of the house, Mr. Garvey arose amidst tumultuous applause and addressed the company. Mr. Garvey said:

"Miss Olin, ladies and gentlemen: It is a great privilege to be here to-night and a greater one to be permitted to say a few words on the subject of music to this charming audience. (Applause.) Rarely, if ever, has it been my good fortune to listen to such delightful harmonies as have greeted my ears this evening. (Prolonged applause.) I have heard the decision of the referee and I do not agree with him on all points. (Applause north; silence south.) On the other hand, after carefully weighing his conclusions, I think it would be folly to contest the decision, as he could not have decided any other way.

(Rapturous applause south; intense silence north.) I well remember that before I had acquired a thorough knowledge of music, every musical sound appeared to my untrained ear to be but a single tone. But I later mastered the technique of the art. I discovered (applause) that it consists of one fundamental tone, accompanied by higher tones which blend with it (tremendous applause, with cries of 'Good! Good!'). Now, paradoxical as it may seem to the lay mind, harmony is the science of discord. (Great laughter.) A chord in any key may be a con-cord or a dis-cord (renewed laughter), and if the latter, it might be the 'Dominant Seventh,' the Jess Willard of harmonics, so to speak. (Prolonged laughter and cheers.) Now, turning to counterpoint for just a moment or two, what do we find—I ask you? Simply this—a dissonance must appear as a consonance, otherwise it must be approached very gradually! (Tremendous applause.) My friends, only one who understands counterpoint and harmony can realize the importance of this! (Great applause.) And now let me say in closing (cries of 'No! No! Go on!'), if one voice produce a note which is an upper partial of another voice, the higher voice adds nothing to the lower! It simply reinforces what was there! Do you get me? (Yes, yes, from all parts of the house.) And so, let come what will, tonic, supertonic, mediant, subdominant, dominant or sub-mediant, I affirm and affirm with boldness that in the Dorian mode confusion will continue to arise in our sensations of tonality. I thank you." (Prolonged cheers; audience on its own and everybody else's feet.) And thus ended a Perfect Day.

## Billiard Tournament Finished

The first three-cushion tournament held by the Chicago Telephone Billiard Club was brought to a successful conclusion last month.

The tournament, which was a handicap affair, was held at Bensinger's rooms, Madison and Clark streets, the management donating a portion of the receipts to be used in the purchase of prizes. A list of the winners follows: J. H. Chandler, maintenance department, first; L. L. Winter, auditing department, second; A. L. Simpson, general commercial, third; A. L. Neisler, maintenance department, fourth; W. R. Ross, maintenance department, fifth.

A second tournament will be held in the near future.

## In Berlin

"Look here, my friend, what on earth are you waiting for? You've been standing here for an hour in the pouring rain."

"I'm waiting for a car."

"But at least five have just gone by."

"Yes, but not the one with the pretty conductor!"—*Ulk*.



DANCING PARTY OF ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.

### Accounting Department Dance

Seldom has the grand ballroom of the Auditorium Hotel opened its hospitable portals to a more enthusiastic and vivacious company of young people than on the occasion of the first annual informal dance of the Accounting Department employés of the Chicago Telephone Company. The dance was an event of the night of February 15th and brought together more than four hundred accounting department people and their friends, and a few from other departments.

E. G. Drew, division auditor of receipts, with his daughter, Miss Marian Drew, led the grand march, which carried the dancers through the most approved evolutions, involving bewildering marches and counter marches. Mr. Drew piloted the company through these maneuvers with the skill of a veteran tactician—indeed, it was the universal comment that the late lamented Ward McAllister himself had nothing on E. G.

Mr. Drew was not, however, the only accounting expert who qualified as cotillion leader. The members of the committee, resplendent in full evening raiment, would have added luster to any assemblage on

the "gold coast." And the girls—what shall we say about them! The girls, as everybody knows, are the *raison d'être* for dances, picnics and taffy pullings, and on the occasion of which we write they demonstrated conclusively that as such they are wholly sufficient.

The committee, of which Frank H. Richardson was chairman, had worked industriously devising and supervising a scheme of decorations in which the American flag formed a conspicuous part. The dainty dance programs, distributed at the close of the grand march, also bore a beautifully embossed imprint in colors, of the Stars and Stripes.

During the evening frappé and punch were served.

Among the officials who were guests were: A. B. Crunden, auditor of disbursements; J. J. Kelly, chief traveling auditor; and E. G. Drew, division auditor of receipts. General Auditor B. S. Garvey had expected to be present but was called out of town. H. J. Booth, auditor of receipts, was slightly ill and unable to attend.

The committee in charge of the affair included F. H. Richardson, chairman; O. W. Schroeder, George C. Luther, H. M. Wenker and W. R. Spratt, Jr.

### Women's Tuesday Lunch Club

On Tuesday, January 23d, Rev. J. A. Jenkins, D. D., spoke on "The Place of Humor in Life." He said, in part:

"Nothing truer has ever been said than this: 'Laugh, and the world laughs with you; weep, and you weep alone.' It is equally true that they can best sympathize, even with those who weep, who have the spirit of good cheer and optimism. Learning to laugh heartily and freely is one of life's supreme accomplishments. A good laugh is a tonic, a transformer, it revivifies the drooping spirit.

"Nature herself seems to have jocular moods. While sometimes she frowns, she is equally prone to smile. The shining of the sun, the babbling of the brook, the warbling of birds, are all phases of her merrier moods. Man, as he studies Mother Nature, becomes himself an optimist, an enthusiast. Father Time also seems to be of a humorous turn. He is constantly playing tricks upon humanity. He conceals the secrets of the lost arts from perplexed men; he gives to a Sarah Bernhardt the secret of perpetual youth, and makes the three-year-old pickaninny seem preternaturally ancient and grave.

"Man has always been a laugh-maker.

Our present-day cartoons and funny papers doubtless had their predecessors in the long, dead ages, as man traced rude figures on the sands or molded them out of the plastic clay. Homer, conspicuous father of Greek civilization, was fond of his humorous sallies. Aesop, with his quaintness and sly drives, seems to have been a sort of patron saint of an innumerable company of jokers. Hierocles, with his standard joke-book of most ancient times, seems to have been a sort of 'Joe Miller' of his day. A conspicuous example of the joker among the English people was Charles Lamb, who, in spite of his sad environment and tragic family history, looked upon life quizzically and humorously. This quality saved him from morbidness and discouragement, and gave him to his race as one of its geniuses and inspirers.

"We of the new world are particularly favored in our fun-makers. While it is doubtless true, as the critics affirm, that America has not yet developed a great outstanding literature, it is also true that in the matter of humor she is unique. There is something in the atmosphere, as well as in the cosmopolitan character of our people, which seems to produce the humorous disposition. It is most significant that Lincoln, our first American, was particularly conspicuous as a devotee of the merry and jocular. That is a goodly company which has as some of its members Washington Irving, Artemus Ward, Josh Billings, Mark Twain, Petroleum V. Nasby, The Danbury News Man, Eugene Field, Eli Perkins, Bill Nye and those pleasant and instructive jokers of our day, George Ade and Peter F. Dunne—the rollicking 'Mr. Dooley.'

"It has been said that there are only thirty-six original jokes, and that few of these could be appreciated by a woman. This reflection upon the fun-appreciating spirit of femininity is certainly not justified by this company. Your alertness of mind is shown by your appreciation of the points made by your speaker, and your good humor is, I am sure, a guarantee of your eminent fitness to get the most out of life and to make life smooth and joyous to your fellow beings."

The talk was sparkling and the "funny stories" which illustrated the lecturer's points were most effective. All of the girls went back to business with smiling faces.

The club was entertained by "home talent" on Tuesday, February 6th, when Miss Laura Laughlin and Miss Mary Woods gave a program which was quite up to the standard of



MISS LAUGHLIN.

those given from outside. It is difficult to report the quality of the readings of Miss Laughlin or the singing of Miss Woods; but we hope they may in a way speak for themselves through the pictures we are able to present.

Miss Laughlin gave "The Soul of the Violin" most effectively and followed with such a good dialect selection that we wish we could hear more. Miss Woods has a beautiful voice of breadth and sweetness and her "Good-bye" by Tosti and the encore which followed delighted the large audience, which was a "capacity house." We do appreciate our own girls and we are sure that had the dining hall been twice as large it would have been filled.

Miss Florence King, successful lawyer and president of the Woman's Association of Commerce, gave an address on "Opportunities for Business Women" the following Tuesday. She began her address with the statement that if it meant as much to the girls present as it did to her to address such a company of business women, they would all go back to work at one-thirty with a vim and vigor that would make their work more effective than ever. Miss King spoke of her own struggle, having from a stenographer worked her way through her law studies to her present position, and she encouraged the girls to have ambition to make the most of their opportunities—to let their present work be the stepping-stone to something higher. She spoke of the opportunities of the twentieth century—so many more than their mothers had offered to them. She urged the girls not to be satisfied with the weak praise "very well done for a woman"; but to make their standard so high that they could deserve unqualified praise and be on an equality with men in the kind of service they gave.

In closing she spoke of the first convention of business women, which is to be held in Chicago this spring, when women from all over the nation are expected to be present, and invited all to be at some of the meetings.

### Orders Are Orders

The new doorkeeper at the museum turnstile had learned a book of rules by heart.

"Here, Sir, you must leave your umbrella at the door," he said to a visitor.

"But I haven't an umbrella," the visitor pleaded.

"Then go back and get one," said the keeper. "No one is allowed to pass in here unless he leaves his umbrella at the door."

—Exchange.

### Another Operator Appreciated

If it had not been for the proverbial intelligence of a Bell telephone operator, a certain Chicagoan, who is too modest to mention his name, would have had to accept the hard hospitality of a park bench in Cleveland and gamble for his life with the icy night wind from Lake Erie. Moreover and more terrible, had he survived that, he probably would have been paged at a wee hour in the morning by a blue-coated municipal bellboy who might have administered some superfluous and annoying treatment.

But no! It was not so willed. The operator saved our Chicago friend all this woe. He was grateful enough for the service rendered him to write the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS a letter which is here published:

February 8, 1917.

Editor, BELL NEWS, Chicago.

Dear Sir:—I arrived in Cleveland from Chicago, Tuesday a. m., February 6, 1917. Registering at one of the best hotels, went about my work and on returning to the hotel found I could not get a room on account of the Cannery Convention. Then went to several other hotels but without results. Hotel-men were putting five men in a room. Tired and disgusted I inquired of the Bell operator at the Colonial Hotel if she knew what hotel to call. She showed her efficiency by starting at your classified list of hotels and going to the next to the last listed (White Hall Hotels) before finding any hotel that had a room open. Although the White Hall is located at 107th street, I took the only room or suite they had and I am still here. Thanks to your operator on duty February the 6th, p. m., at the Colonial, Cleveland. Yours,

A CHICAGO SUBSCRIBER.

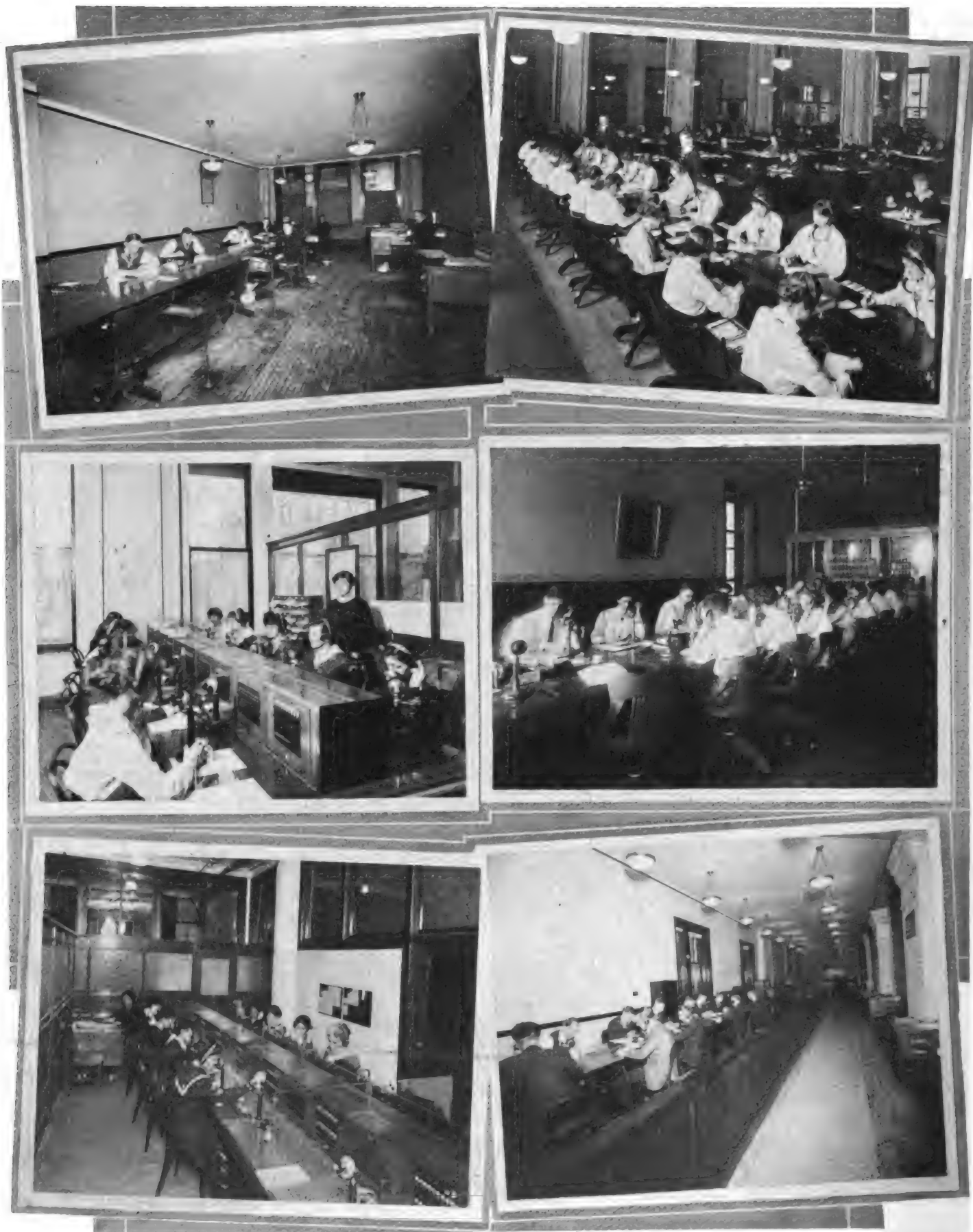
### New York Company's Year

A year of extraordinary business activity brought the New York Telephone Company a gross revenue of \$57,005,565 in 1916, a gain of \$7,376,019 over the preceding year. The net income amounted to \$15,002,260, against \$11,250,700, to which was added \$5,014,168 derived from investments and \$500,826 miscellaneous earnings. After dividends were paid a balance of \$7,265,341 remained, a total \$3,463,000 larger than in 1915.

The annual statement said that the net income was equivalent to 8.37 per cent. on the company's investment, compared with 6.70 per cent. in the preceding year. At the end of the year 1,361,179 stations were in operation, a gain of 114,656 from January 1st. Including the associated and connecting concerns, the total of telephone stations in use as of December 31st was 2,393,179, a gain of 193,760 in twelve months. The company's investments in stocks and bonds increased \$6,800,000 during the year to a total of \$89,760,481.



MISS WOODS.



TYPICAL ORDER TABLES IN USE IN CENTRAL GROUP TERRITORY.

(1) Service Bureau, Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago. (2) Information Table, Mail Sales Division, Commercial Department, Chicago Telephone Company. (3) May Company, Department Store, Cleveland, Ohio. (4) Chandler & Rudd Company, Cleveland, Ohio. (5) Halle Brothers Company, Cleveland, Ohio. (6) Application Table, Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago.



## Order Table Has Made Telephone Shopping a Pleasure

**Bell Engineers and Commercial Managers, with Characteristic Energy, Have Supplied Scientific Apparatus and Methods to Meet an Important Public Demand**

"Not to-day," spoke Mrs. Nubride into her receiver, "it's too stormy. I'll shop by telephone."

"I guess I'll do the same," replied her friend, and the conversation passed to other topics.

Mrs. Nubride replaced the receiver after a satisfactory visit by wire, and then glanced out of the window. Then she inwardly thanked her stars that she was in a position to say, "not to-day."

It was a raw, blustery, February day. It looked wretched outside and it was pleasant for Mrs. Nubride to think that she could do her day's buying for the household within comfortable distance of her own fireside—by telephone. Besides she would in that way escape risks to her health.

"Better pay for telephone service," her husband had contended, "than pay for medical attendance."

In thus, lightly and with little thought, disposing of a problem which a generation ago would have meant perhaps hours of discomfort, Mrs. Nubride pays unconscious tribute to the sufficiency and efficiency of the telephone service.

The telephone companies, working in coöperation with the merchants of the larger cities, have devised special apparatus and worked out special traffic methods by means of which the telephone user who wishes to avoid the long trip downtown may be assured that she (or perhaps he) gets a service from the store which will be as satisfactory in its results as if the buyer were present in person. It works perhaps something like this:

"Telephone Shopper" says "the voice with the smile," sitting at the busy telephone order table of the big department store.

"This is Mrs. Heights," says the voice at the distant end of the line. "I am leaving the city to-morrow and I need a hat. I can't possibly take the time to come to the store and make a selection, so I want you to select and send out a hat that will be suitable. Not over forty dollars."

Further conversation takes place in regard to choice of trimmings and the personal appearance of the customer, for even mere man knows that a hat which looks well on a short woman will not look well on a tall one.

Fortified with this information, the "Telephone Shopper" proceeds to the millinery department and "shops" until she is satisfied that she has found the hat that will best please Mrs. Heights.

Result: Mrs. Heights has saved herself the ordeal of making a selection from several hundred hats, requiring a half or a whole day's time (which in this case would have been out of the question) and she

leaves town with a new hat on her head and a smile on her face. And still some men think that women are hard to please in the matter of hats.

About two years ago the big stores were advertising the "Telephone Shopper," educating the public to shop by telephone. Special inducements were made in the matter of price and certain articles were advertised as "Telephone Suggestions." The large mercantile establishments recognized the possibilities of telephone orders.

The idea "took" and "took strong" with the public and it is no longer necessary to advertise the "Telephone Shopper."

Not only hats; but the selection of furniture, rugs, gowns, coats, shoes and an endless variety of other articles is left to the discretion of the pleasant voiced "Telephone Shopper."

It has been found that years of experience in salesmanship throughout the various departments is not the chief requisite of a successful "Telephone Shopper." Success in this position requires taste and a pleasing personality that is reflected in the voice. For this reason, inexperienced girls are frequently more successful "Telephone Shoppers" than members of the "old guard."

Spending other people's money is certainly a fascinating occupation. One girl shopped for three days before she had completed a \$500 order, which covered a list of articles ranging from a dining room table to a package of hair pins.

Selecting two fur coats at \$145 each for a woman who thought the weather too inclement to come to the store, is merely incidental to the "Telephone Shopper's" daily work.

An invalid living in Cleveland, Ohio, who has not visited the store in five years, has an average monthly account of \$300, all purchases being made by the "Telephone Shopper." At Christmas time one hundred and sixty-two gifts were selected, properly marked, wrapped and delivered through the medium of the "Telephone Shopper." Her friends are still wondering how an invalid can accomplish so much. Many who have difficulty in selecting a half dozen gifts can appreciate the tremendous problem that was solved for this woman by this great telephone innovation.

Big orders are impressive but the small purchaser receives equal attention and in most cases requires more attention on account of the amount to be invested being limited. For instance, a woman called the "Telephone Shopper" of one of the big stores and said she had just three dollars and a half to secure material for a gown. The "Telephone Shoppers" enjoy an order

of this kind, because it gives them an opportunity to demonstrate their skill as buyers. The material for the gown in question, complete in all details, amounted to \$3.49.

Confidence in the system has spread to neighboring cities, evidenced by a "Long Distance" order to Cleveland from Akron for a bridal veil.

Mourning outfits are frequently obtained through the "Telephone Shopper." The busy housewife with one or more small children finds the "Telephone Shopper" a great blessing.

One of Cleveland's large mercantile establishments has a force of twelve young women who do nothing but shop for customers. If the article cannot be found in their own stock, they go to other stores and secure it.

People who patronize this service are practically unanimous in stating that the "Telephone Shopper" is far more successful and economical in making purchases than they could possibly expect to be themselves and, in addition, it saves them the annoyance of talking to half a dozen or more salespeople in as many different departments.

To take care of this remarkable phase in the development of the modern department store, the telephone engineers have provided the telephone order table.

The telephone lines, which run through the center of the order table, are multiplied at each position so that a signal appears before each shopper when a call comes in.

The call can be answered by any shopper who is not busy, thus insuring prompt service. On some tables glass partitions prevent the confusion of voices that might otherwise result with so many people working at one table.

The use of the telephone order table is not, of course, confined to department stores; but is an indispensable unit to the large grocery stores, to newspaper offices and various other lines of activity.

One large Cleveland grocer has an eighteen-position telephone order table and the business transacted each day by these eighteen telephone salespeople is quite astonishing.

Two hundred thousand "Want" advertisements are taken annually over the twenty-position telephone order table of one of Cleveland's evening papers.

The telephone order table is also used extensively by the newspapers and department stores in soliciting business. One large mercantile house has a list of one thousand customers who are advised by telephone of any special proposition that the store is offering. The orders obtained in this way well repay for the effort made

in telephoning these patrons.

In Chicago are some of the largest order table installations in the country. Among pioneers in the use of the order table was the Chicago Telephone Company, and one of the busiest tables in the city is to be found in the big commercial department headquarters. The table is an integral and very important part of the telephone and mail sales section. This section has forty employes in charge of a head clerk, and these employes are engaged in selling service by telephone and in answering all inquiries that come by telephone relative to new service, move orders, out orders or changes in present service. For this purpose

a twenty-position order table equipped with twenty direct exchange incoming lines, each line being multiplied through, so that any one of the twenty clerks can answer a call on any one of the twenty lines, is used. This order table is known as "Official 100," and practically all of the newspaper advertising bears this number. The twenty clerks who answer these telephone lines are thoroughly familiar with all rates, and rules and regulations, and are not burdened with any other routine work; hence their services are instantly available to the telephone-using public whose wants can thus be cared for just as efficiently as though they had made a journey to the office or had a representative visit them.

While the efficiency of the Official 100 board is daily demonstrated, at no time of the year is it more valuable than during the spring and fall "moving seasons," when so many thousand of subscribers change their addresses. The persistent newspaper advertising campaign in which subscribers are urged to send in their move orders early and by telephoning Official 100 has been of incalculable assistance in the efforts to give subscribers the benefit of uninterrupted telephone service, no matter when or where they move.

Another Chicago example of the effective use of order tables by a big public utility is furnished by the Commonwealth Edison Company. The thirty-two position table in the application bureau is arranged with thirty-two incoming and thirty-two outgoing trunks to the main private branch exchange. The service bureau is also equipped with a twenty-position order table which handles all calls from patrons report-



MOVING CONDUIT FROM SIDEWALK TO STREET, DORCHESTER AVENUE, CHICAGO.

ing trouble with electric light or power.

A summary of the more important Cleveland installations shows that there are fifty positions in service in department stores, sixty positions in grocery stores, forty required by the newspapers and fifty positions in other miscellaneous establishments, making a grand total of 200 order table positions.

### Conduit Moved Bodily

The two photographs on this page illus-



CABLE ENTERING NEW TRENCH.

trate some good work done by south construction division, Chicago.

A nine-duct Chicago Telephone Company conduit with four 300-pair cables passed under the Illinois Central Railway elevation at Marquette road and Dorchester avenue. The railway company is making extensive improvements here. The conduit ran under the sidewalk just where the caisson had to go for the new railway construction work. There was an old foundation abutment on the south side of Marquette road, wooden piles on the north and the new caisson in the center.

The conduit was broken out, and the cable protected temporarily by a wooden

box. After the new caisson had been constructed a new conduit line was made of split tile, four feet north of the old run and the cable lifted out of the temporary wooden box and put into the split tile. Slack enough was obtained to allow this to be done without cutting any of the cables and the new line is in first-class shape.

### Shaw a Telephone Man

George Bernard Shaw, the Irish dramatist and philosopher whose brilliant satires have earned him the title of the "Modern Aristophanes," was once a telephone man. In one of his books he says:

"You must not suppose, because I am a man of letters, that I never tried to earn an honest living. I began trying to commit that sin against my nature when I was fifteen, and persevered from youthful timidity and diffidence until I was twenty-three. My last attempt was in 1879, when a company was formed in London to exploit an ingenious invention by Mr. Thomas Alva Edison—a much too ingenious invention as it proved, being nothing less than a telephone of such stentorian efficiency that it bellowed your most private communications all over the house instead of whispering them with some sort of discretion. This was not what the British stockbroker wanted, so the company was soon merged in the National (United) Telephone Company, after making a place for itself in the history of literature quite unintentionally, by providing me with a job. Whilst the Edison Telephone Company lasted it crowded the basement of a huge pile of offices in Queen Victoria street with American artificers."

### Report of Employees' Benefit Fund Committee

Chicago Telephone Company  
Wisconsin Telephone Company  
The Cleveland Telephone Company  
Michigan State Telephone Company  
TO EMPLOYEES:

In compliance with the provisions of the Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits, an audit of the receipts and disbursements of the Employees' Benefit Fund for the year ending December 31, 1916, has been made, and a Certificate of Audit appears at the conclusion of the following Annual Statements, which are submitted as the Fourth Annual Report of the Benefit Fund Committee:

#### Chicago Telephone Company

Amount of Fund January 1, 1916..\$500,000  
Payments for the year 1916:  
Pensions .....\$ 4,869  
Accident Disability ..... 28,741  
Disability Expense (accident only) ..... 11,926  
Sickness Disability ..... 125,158  
Death Benefits ..... 22,408 193,102  
\$306,898

The above payments cover a total of 3,776 cases, about 26.8% of the average number of 14,113 employees having participated in the benefits during the year. The expense of administration was paid by the Company, and was not charged to the Fund.

Interest at 4% added to Fund .....\$ 16,578  
Other credits, miscellaneous ..... 3,428

Appropriation made to restore Fund to original amount (\$500,000)..... 173,096 193,102

Amount of Fund January 1, 1917..\$500,000

#### Wisconsin Telephone Company

Amount of Fund January 1, 1916..\$125,000  
Payments for the year 1916:  
Pensions .....\$ 1,677  
Accident Disability ..... 6,453  
Disability Expense (accident only) ..... 2,516  
Sickness Disability ..... 14,660  
Death Benefits ..... 3,018 28,324  
\$ 96,676

The above payments cover a total of 627 cases, about 16.3% of the average number of 3,847 employees having participated in the benefits during the year. The expense of administration was paid by

the Company, and was not charged to the Fund.

Interest at 4% added to Fund .....\$ 4,529  
Other credits, miscellaneous ..... 14  
Appropriation made to restore Fund to original amount (\$125,000)..... 23,781 28,324

Amount of Fund January 1, 1917..\$125,000

#### The Cleveland Telephone Company

Amount of Fund January 1, 1916..\$ 75,000  
Payments for the year 1916:  
Pensions .....\$ 1,847  
Accident Disability ..... 7,318  
Disability Expense (accident only) ..... 2,132  
Sickness Disability ..... 13,610  
Death Benefits ..... 2,253  
State Insurance ..... 900 28,060  
\$ 46,940

The above payments cover a total of 508 cases, about 21.6% of the average number of 2,354 employees having participated in the benefits during the year. The expense of administration was paid by the Company, and was not charged to the Fund.

Interest at 4% added to Fund .....\$ 2,600  
Other credits, miscellaneous ..... 7

Appropriation made to restore Fund to original amount (\$75,000)..... 25,453 28,060

Amount of Fund January 1, 1917..\$ 75,000

#### Michigan State Telephone Company

Amount of Fund January 1, 1916..\$215,000  
Payments for the year 1916:  
Pensions .....\$ 4,022  
Accident Disability ..... 10,635  
Disability Expense (accident only) ..... 3,974  
Sickness Disability ..... 23,655  
Death Benefits ..... 4,263 46,549  
\$168,451

The above payments cover a total of 831 cases, about 11.6% of the average number of 7,177 employees having participated in the benefits during the year. The expense of administration was paid by the Company, and was not charged to the Fund.

Interest at 4% added to Fund .....\$ 7,825  
Other credits, miscellaneous ..... 21

Appropriation made to restore Fund to original amount (\$215,000). 38,703 46,549  
\$215,000

### EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT FUND COMMITTEE.

W. I. MIZNER,  
Secretary.

Funds, as above summarized, have been audited and found correct by Wm. A. Peterson and C. S. Bigelow, Traveling Auditors for the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. Certificates of audit are on file with the Secretary.

### Report of Employees' Benefit Fund Committee

Receivers, Central Union Telephone Company

TO EMPLOYEES: In compliance with the provisions of the Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits, an audit of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Employees' Benefit Fund for the year ending December 31, 1916, has been made, and a Certificate of Audit appears at the conclusion of the following Annual Statement:

Original appropriation made by the Company to establish Employees' Benefit Fund.....\$180,000.00  
Payments for the year 1916:  
Pensions .....\$ 3,905.16  
Accident Disability Benefits ..... 23,748.12  
Disability Expense (accidents only)... 9,414.60  
Sickness Disability Benefits ..... 25,182.85  
Death Benefits (including expenses).. 9,831.25  
State Insurance ..... 1,001.90 73,083.88  
\$106,916.12

Interest at 4% added to Fund ..... 5,971.91  
Appropriation made to restore Fund to original amount.... 67,111.97 73,083.88

Amount of Fund January 1, 1917 ..... \$180,000.00  
We have audited the above statement and certify that it is correct.

EDWARD P. MOXEY & Co.,  
Certified Public Accountants.

There were 984 new cases approved in 1916, about 11% of the average number of 9,076 employees having participated in the benefits during the year. The expense of administration was paid by the Receivers, and was



CONFERENCE OF BELL ENGINEERS IN NEW YORK.

In the photograph will be seen the familiar faces of the following engineering officials of the Central Group: W. R. McGovern, S. J. Larned, W. F. Patten, S. A. Rhodes, C. A. Brydges and J. S. Ford, of Chicago; N. Anderson and A. N. Symes, of Cleveland; W. D. Hobbins and F. E. Chandler, of Milwaukee, and C. Kittredge and M. B. Downing, of Detroit.

not charged to the Fund.

#### NOTICE

Employés should familiarize themselves with Paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of Section 9 of the Benefit Plan, so as to guard against breaking their service records by absences that are not covered by disability benefits.

Failure on the part of the employés to inform themselves of these matters and to observe them may result in loss of credit for previous service. Employés may obtain information regarding the routines from their immediate superiors.

THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT FUND  
GENERAL COMMITTEE,

E. J. FARRELL,  
Secretary.

#### Conference of Bell Engineers

One of the most important technical conferences ever held by the engineers of the Bell System took place at the office of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, 195 Broadway, New York, during December. It was held on the invitation of J. J. Carty for the purpose of bringing the technical, plant and traffic engineers of the Bell System directly in touch with the latest development work of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company's engineering department on transmission problems and switching systems.

Over one hundred technical representatives of the telephone companies were

present, comprising chief engineers, state and division engineers, equipment and transmission engineers, general superintendents of traffic, traffic engineers and others interested in the above subjects, including representatives from the engineering department of the Western Electric Company and the engineering and other departments of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company. The Central Group was represented by the following: W. R. McGovern, chief engineer; S. A. Rhodes, transmission engineer; W. F. Patten, equipment engineer; C. K. Brydges, acting traffic engineer. From the Wisconsin Company: W. D. Hobbins, state engineer; F. A. Chandler, traffic superintendent. From the Cleveland Company: A. N. Symes, engineer; Norman Anderson, traffic superintendent. From the Michigan State Telephone Company: C. Kittredge, state engineer; M. B. Downing, traffic superintendent. From the Chicago Company: S. J. Larned, general traffic superintendent; J. S. Ford, state engineer.

Mr. Carty personally presided at the conference, and many papers, some illustrated with slides, were read by members of the staff of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, and J. H. Gordon, Jr., general superintendent of traffic of the New York Telephone Company. U. N. Bethell, N. T. Guernsey, H. B. Thayer and F. A. Stevenson of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company addressed the

gathering. The switchboard installations at Newark and the laboratories of the Western Electric Company were visited.

The conference was an immense success and many of those present expressed the hope that it would be an annual affair.

A conference dinner was given the visiting engineers by Mr. Carty and the engineering department of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company on Friday evening, December 15th, at the Hotel Astor. Mr. Carty was toastmaster. A letter was read from Mr. Vail expressing his regret at not being able to be present. The after-dinner speakers were Messrs. W. R. McGovern, B. Gherardi, J. J. Carty, U. N. Bethell, F. H. Bethell, F. B. Jewett, E. F. Sherwood, K. W. Waterson, N. T. Guernsey, T. D. Lockwood and H. B. Thayer.

#### Zero Weather Helps

Winter, arch enemy of the telephone plant, on rare occasions contributes some advantage to offset, at least in an insignificant degree, the mischief he perpetrates at other times. For instance, during February the work of placing conduit under the bridge crossing the DuPage River at Joliet, Ill., was completed. The job was made possible by the ice on the river, which was strong enough to sustain the weight of the ladders used by the Chicago Telephone Company plant men.



## Public Ownership in Theory and Practice

From a recent publication on Government Ownership of Telephones the following interesting information is derived regarding promises made by the government of the Province of Manitoba, Canada, that rate reductions would follow the acquisition of the telephone lines by the government:

"In spite of the Government's glib promises to the effect that the Bell rates were to be 'cut in two,' instead of a reduction in rates, the immediate result of Government ownership was a substantial, though sectional, increase. Under the Bell Company, the telephones of physicians, dentists and nurses had been granted a reduced rate; on February 20, 1908, the commission issued a circular announcing that thereafter such telephones would be charged for at the regular rate for business service, representing an increase of 25 per cent. Although this increase cannot, in itself, be especially condemned, nevertheless the commission's action caused much controversy because it was such a flagrant violation of the Government's promises in regard to rates. Almost from the beginning the Telephone Commission found itself the target of hostile criticism, for although it had not been in the least responsible for the promises made by the Government, yet it was in the position of having to bear the responsibility for any failure to fulfill these promises.

"The immediate action of the Government in relation to their pledges having thus been briefly indicated, with these pledges in mind we are now prepared to follow the history of the enterprise. So far as practicable, this history will be given chronologically.

"In the first place, notwithstanding the activity of the Government in construction work, they did not move fast enough to suit the Opposition. For instance, about three months after the purchase, the Opposition paper in Winnipeg denounced the Government for failing to provide at least 1,000 miles of additional long distance lines. The political effect of such attacks was not lost upon the Government, who saw themselves forced to adopt a policy of the most feverish energy in construction—an illustration of the fact that, after all, both political parties have been implicated in the mismanagement of the system. As has already been indicated, the speed at which construction was forced in the years 1908 to 1911 was very costly; but the commission was told to go on, that the Province could sustain the financial burdens involved. The commission was obliged to erect unprofitable and unnecessary rural lines, to convert toll offices into exchanges before the amount of business warranted the change, to give night service in small exchanges where day service would have sufficed and to give free service between certain exchanges—all of

which was done at the instance of the Government in order to placate political opponents or to gratify supporters, and also in order to increase the patronage of the Government and to promote the illusion that the system was prospering. Moreover, attention should again be called to the fact that it was impossible to expand the external organization to keep pace with the expansion in plant. Also the scarcity of labor compelled the commission to keep an excessive number of men on the permanent payrolls, while, as a matter of actual practice, the commission was unable to select its employés. Men were forced upon foremen by members of the Provincial Legislature; Cabinet Ministers made 'recommendations' over the telephone, while at the same time solemnly assuring the public that the commission was not being interfered with and that the business was being conducted on a commercial footing. Indeed, hangers-on of both parties were always on the lookout for political crumbs; in the words of one of the commissioners it is found that 'the whole running of the system has been permeated with politics.' Finally, while the Government was playing fast and loose with the real interests of the Province, the people were scarcely less culpable. They appeared to be demoralized by the fact that the telephone was a Government undertaking and exploited the telephone administration in every way.

"While the Telephone Commission was doing its best—under pressure—to carry out the Government's policy in regard to the rapid extension of the telephone system (a policy dictated solely by political expediency), the commission could not redeem the pledges in regard to the reduction of rates. In general the Bell rates continued to be retained throughout 1908; in certain cases (some of which have already been mentioned) they were materially increased. The Opposition newspapers did not cease denouncing the members of the Government for having failed to live up to their promises; but the fault lay in having made the promises rather than in having failed to fulfill them. Had the Government met all the demands of the Opposition—or, indeed, all those of the public—the telephone enterprise would speedily have been reduced to hopeless bankruptcy; even as it was, the credit of the Province had undoubtedly suffered. The general situation certainly justified the following summary made by an Opposition newspaper toward the close of the first summer of Government operation: 'The carrying out of the Government's telephone policy has resulted in the people of Manitoba having had placed upon them an indebtedness of close upon \$4,000,000. The interest on this indebtedness makes a heavy fixed annual charge. The service is

no better than was given by the Bell Telephone Company, whose shareholders now hold the Province's bonds and have to be paid their interest regularly. The rates are no lower than the Bell rates were, in some cases they are higher.' The accusations against the Government, however, were disposed of in the most cavalier manner; for example, one of the Cabinet Ministers said quite cynically that 'when they engaged in the battle with the Bell Telephone Company, it was necessary to make strong statements,' which is tantamount to a frank avowal that the statements made by the members of the Government during the telephone agitation were made without regard to truth."

### No Wonder It Went Dead

An Arkansas subscriber walked into the exchange the other morning and expressed himself loud and long regarding the service at his station. He could talk over his clothes line, he said, with as much satisfaction as he could his telephone line. He had sought that morning to place an important call and his telephone was as dead as Julius Caesar's ox. After wearing himself out shouting into a deaf and dumb instrument he had gone to his neighbor's house and found a live wire and a prompt and pleasant operator.

"Why," he demanded, in rasping accents and with violent gestures, "can I talk over my neighbor's line and yet am denied service on my own?"

The manager could not understand. He went himself with the subscriber to his home and found his wires and connections O. K. But when he came to inspect the instrument he threw back his head and started to indulge in the laugh of a lifetime. Then he thought of the feelings of the subscriber and put his hand over his mouth and nearly choked.

The subscriber glared at the manager with astonishment and the latter merely pointed to a laundry bag hanging serenely on the receiver hook. The subscriber took one look and then offered to sell himself and his house and all his future prospects, lock, stock and barrel, to the manager for a dime.

### Honors for Mr. Carty

President Wilson has commissioned John J. Carty a major in the signal officers' reserve corps. Mr. Carty, who is chief engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, was the leading figure in the achievement of trans-continental telephony. For his services in the advancement of science the emperor of Japan decorated Mr. Carty with the Order of the Rising Sun and the Order of the Sacred Treasure.

## Outlaw Bowling League

### TEAM STANDING AND INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES FEB. 14, 1917.

Teams.	Won.	Lost.	Per cent.
Goofs .....	35	19	.548
Bandits .....	32	22	.592
Dodgers .....	32	25	.561
Repeaters .....	31	26	.544
Disturbers .....	28	29	.491
Raiders .....	25	26	.490
Highbinders .....	22	26	.479
Wreckers .....	25	32	.439
Destroyers .....	20	28	.417
Low Browns .....	23	34	.403

High individual score (1 game)—A. J. Covert, Raiders, 243.  
 High individual average (3 games)—A. J. Covert, Raiders, 196.  
 High team score (1 game)—Goofs, 557.  
 High team score (1 game)—Repeaters, 557.  
 High team average (3 games)—Goofs, 514-2.

A. J. Covert of the Raiders rolled high game, 243, and high individual average, three games, 196.

Frank Mitchell's Wreckers are slipping fast. Instead of wrecking the other teams they fall all over themselves.

Captain Corning of the Bandits is making a great showing with his team.

G. Clark, the star from Wheaton, went into the lead again with an average of 163-19 for 30 games.

E. A. Judd's Highbinders have been going at high speed the last few times out.

The Outlaw Bowling League bowls Tuesday nights at six o'clock at the Palace Bowling Alleys, 141 North Wabash Avenue.

## Ideal Bowling League

### STANDING OF THE TEAMS.

Teams.	Won.	Lost.	Per cent.	Average.
Assignment .....	45	18	.714	820
Executive .....	41	22	.650	830
Comm. Engr. ....	41	22	.650	819
Maintenance .....	36	27	.571	792
Gen'l Comm'l. ....	31	32	.492	805
Rel. and Safety. ....	27	36	.428	769
Traffic .....	18	45	.285	742
Invincibles .....	13	50	.206	744

High team (3 games)—Executive, 930-2.  
 High team (1 game)—Executive, 964.  
 High individual, first (3 games)—Fetherstone (E.), 209.  
 High individual, second (3 games)—Boyd (E.), 189-2.  
 High individual, third (3 games)—Robson (A.), 183-1.  
 High individual, first (1 game)—Russell (C. E.), 243.  
 High individual, second (1 game)—Robson (A.), 235.  
 High individual, second (1 game)—Boyd (E.), 235.  
 High individual, third (1 game)—Fetherstone (E.), 234.

The three-quarter post has been passed with the Assignment Team in the Ideal. Unknown or ??? Bowling League of Chicago, as shown above, well in the lead. The other two teams in the league who thought they had a fair chance for the pennant are tied for second place, four games in arrears.

Monday night, February 19th, was more or less of a riot. The executive team arrived on the firing line full of hope and confidence in trimming the traffic bunch the usual three games and seeing the assignment team topped by the strong commercial superintendent's team at least two out of three; but, oh! what a difference! The traffic team lived up to its nickname—"Ter-rifics," and Mr. Mizner with his warriors walked from the battlefield with three more games counted up on the losing side. While this was happening, the leaders

easily stowed away two games on the winning side, which makes it practically impossible, they think, for them to be beaten out of first place in the seven more bowling nights before the close of the season.

The executive team must be given credit, however, for holding to high one and three high games, and their individual bowlers occasionally show real class. Fetherston, for instance, put up a three-game series of 208 and Boyd a series of 189. But, using a strictly bowler's term, they are considered "bunch bowlers." For example, Fetherston follows his 208 series with a 150 average for three games, while Boyd on the next night after his high series came back with 156 average.

Robson, Pierre and Finnely, all of the assignment team, are ashamed of themselves whenever they go lower than 163 average and vie with each other every night to see who can put up the most 200 games. If there was such a thing as a "Nullo" in bowlers, "Jimmie" Nivin, as captain, with Welch, Pashby and Sullivan of the traffic team and Pierce of the Maintenance team would be world beaters, the combined averages of the five men being close to the 300 mark.

## North Side Bowling League

### STANDING OF THE TEAMS, FEB. 14, 1917.

Teams.	Won.	Lost.	Per cent.
Lincoln .....	45	12	.789
Belmont .....	36	21	.632
Edgewater .....	27	30	.473
Humboldt .....	26	31	.466
Irving .....	24	33	.421
Lake View .....	13	44	.228

The North Side Bowling League consists of the maintenance employes at the above offices. They bowl every Tuesday evening at the Star, Alleys, Halsted and Grace streets and Broadway.

## South Division Bowling

At Bruck's alleys, Sixty-third and Halsted streets, February 17th, the south division team rolled with Yards office and won by 121 pins. The south division boys are improving in every game and if they keep up this pace will surely get into the big league.

Harold Mensch starred for south division with high score, 233. Score:

South division, 2,500 pins.

Yards office, 2,379 pins.

The south division team was captained by R. Bowsher. The Yards office team was captained by Mr. Kalkow.

## To-Day's Work

Among the four essentials for success as named by George F. Barber, an efficiency expert who addressed a meeting in Grand Rapids recently, the one most frequently overlooked is "knowledge that success lies in what you are now doing."

Many men fail in their search for success because they look only to the future. They build beautiful air castles for the tomorrow that never comes. The small work of the day seems to them unimportant.

Their every thought is focused on the future. Their eyes are fixed high above their present plane. They forget that to reach this high vantage they must climb from below.

Men who to-day are performing menial tasks neglect their work and slight their employers' demands because they have ambitions larger than the seemingly unimportant labor they now are engaged upon. Yet no man ever legitimately achieved greatness without he first accomplished successfully the small tasks of life.

Men who patiently plod along satisfied in their common labor do not succeed. Men seldom climb beyond their ambitions. The ambitionless man stagnates. It is the fellow who has large plans who gets ahead. Yet the dreamer must remember also to-day. He must build his own ladder to success; and unless the lower rungs are made strong and lasting his support will crumble ere he reaches the top.

There is a great lesson for the man of ambitions in Mr. Barber's assertion that "success lies in what you are now doing." Charles M. Schwab is at the head of a great steel company to-day because he did his tasks well as a menial laborer. Theodore N. Vail is president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company because years ago he was a hard worker for the postoffice department. The postoffice didn't help him to get his biggest job directly, but when a federal employe he was building for himself the ladder which he slowly climbed.—Grand Rapids Herald.

## Striped Tickets

The instructress was teaching the various uses of the different tickets used in the toll room, white tickets for out calls, green tickets for report calls, yellow tickets for inward collect calls, etc., when one of the students said:

"I suppose you use striped tickets for Joliet calls."

## Bowling Personals

**PERSONAL—AFTER THIS DATE I WILL not be responsible for scores bowled by anyone but myself.** F. L. Curtis, Captain Executives.

**PERSONAL—WANTED — TO ADOPT A healthy bowler; good home; will pay for education.** T. H. Catron, Captain Invincibles.

**PERSONAL — BOWLING TAUGHT IN three lessons; five assistants.** A. C. Seaholm, Captain Traffic.

**PERSONAL—JIMMY SMITH: HARRY IS very low; come at once; with you here there is a chance.** "Silo" French, Captain Relief and Safety.

**PERSONAL—BOWLERS: DO NOT APPLY for position; no more help wanted.** Blodgett.

**PERSONAL—ALLEN: AM SORRY; IT IS not yet too late; Thurston leaves tonight.** K. S. Russell, Captain Civil Engineers.

**PERSONAL—I WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE for any scores bowled on or after Feb. 20, 1917, by the General Commercial Team.** A. R. Bone, Room 1601.

**PERSONAL—RALPH: DO YOU NEED Assistance? Count on me.** Answer. Ray.

**BUSINESS PERSONAL—LEARN BOWLING.** Individuals, \$1 per lesson; teams of five players, \$2.50 per lesson. Any Monday evening between 6 and 8 p. m. T. T. Egdlb.

## Of Interest to Our Girls

Conducted by Mrs. F. E. Dewhurst

### "Make This a Day"

Last month on our girls' page we quoted the New York *Tribune* on the courage of Tessie McNamara, who bravely sat at her switchboard and warned every building of the great munition plant where she worked, even at the risk of her own life.

Since then the papers have had many references to this heroine who seems to puzzle people who did not dream that the girls who make their telephone connections for them have such stuff in them. Rheta Childe Dorr says that this operator, herself, was probably unaware that she had the possibility of heroism within her. She says:

"When Miss McNamara took her seat at the telephone switchboard and began her task of saying over and over again, 'Hello,' 'Number, please,' 'Line's busy,' and informing people of the correct time, she did not know that she was a potential heroine. Neither did any one else in the big munitions plant where they were turning out high explosive shells for the warring nations overseas. 'Redhead,' they called her, and probably scolded her once in a while when she kept them waiting for a number.

"Perhaps one of those scoldings was waiting for her when she left her switchboard and went to the window to look for a little diversion from the work. The scolding will never be delivered. For it was a different Tessie that whirled away from the window, threw out horrified hands and shrieked to the roomful of clerks and stenographers: 'Run! Run! Thirty's on fire!' She had left her switchboard just an ordinary little working girl. Men ran from the place screaming like maniacs, but Tessie McNamara sat at her switchboard and plugged and plugged and plugged and called and shouted her warnings until every department in the plant knew the catastrophe which was about to happen.

"Just one more switchboard heroine. How are they to be accounted for? Is it the discipline of the work or are women,

when the great hour strikes, as ready as the bravest among men to do their bit?"

Perhaps the girls who are working in the quiet, uneventful exchanges regret that opportunities seldom come for spectacular bravery like this. They are sitting far away from munition plants or roaring floods and other dangers which have brought devotion to duty before the public.

### Make This A Day



MAKE this a day.

There is no gain in brooding over days to come;

The message of to-day is plain,  
The future's lips are ever dumb.

The work of yesterday is gone—  
For good or ill, let come what may;  
But now we face another dawn:  
Make this a day.

Though yesterday we failed to see  
The urging hand and earnest face  
That men call Opportunity,  
We fail to know the time or place  
For some great deed, what need to fret?  
The dawn comes up a silvery grey;  
The golden moments must be met:  
Make this a day.

This day is yours; your work is yours;  
The odds are not who pays your hire;  
The thing accomplished—that endures,  
If it be what the days require.  
He who takes up his daily round,  
As one new-armoured for the fray,  
To-morrow steps on solid ground:  
Make this a day.

—The Talisman.

But we can assure Rheta Childe Dorr that the "potential heroines" are in all our offices and they are fitting themselves every day by steady, dutiful work to meet any sudden call for unselfish action.

The poem on our page gives the hint. It is the girl who starts out every morning bent on "making it a day"—not brooding over past or future, who sets her face joyously towards the work at hand, who is sure to be ready for the heroic test.

The dawn comes up a silvery grey;  
The golden moments must be met.

How hard sometimes to greet the dawn and the same round of work before us! Yet resolutely keeping a cheerful spirit, putting aside the longing to run away from our duty, we set out and find at the end of the day that we are glad we have had another good day's work. We are not sure just how valuable we have been, perhaps, because we sit at the loom and weave the web of other people's speech; but we

can rest assured that the life of the community has gone on more smoothly, that homes have been happier, lives have been saved, hearts have been cheered, just because we sat at our post "and plugged and plugged," just as faithful, though not as striking a heroine as the ones we read about.

The New York *Times* in a long editorial in which it tries to account for the splendid heroism of telephone girls, speaks of "the unvariable rule that the telephone girl is a heroine when disaster comes. What is there," it asks, "about the switchboard to make Casabiancas infallibly and unvaryingly? Flood, fire, battle, whatever it may be, the story is always the same; the same when the dam breaks at Austin, when the Ohio River tries to engulf Dayton. War comes and finds the telephone girl the same, and the Russian Government decorates her 'for valor under fire' at Novorossysk. There are heroes in the other ranks of labor, but not so infallibly.

"There is nothing in the girl's training to account for it. She is not trained to risk her life, nor paid for doing it, as a policeman is. There is nothing

mechanical or instinctive about her sticking to her post; the other employes run for their lives. That is because they can do nothing to avert the disaster, while she knows that she can lessen it and reasons out the way to do it; so her staying is deliberate, not instinctive.

"Perhaps it would be best to give the solution up and not try to account for it, but simply to pay a tribute of unaffected respect to the humble little worker."

## WAISTLINE FIGURES PROMINENTLY IN SPRING FROCKS

*Neckwear Is of Great Importance with the One-Piece Gown So Much in Evidence—Gossip of the Spring Styles*



By Maude Hall.

Variety in figure lines is one of the outstanding features of modes for spring. Semi-fitted and straight-line effects both have been stamped with fashion's approval, and where one cannot decide upon either, then the trump to play is the frock with two waistlines.

It is an easy matter to manipulate belts, especially with twin effects in such high favor. One of the most charming of the new frocks for spring is in oyster white

7135.  
7048.

flannel trimmed with striped taffeta. The long waist is in Moyen Age effect, the skirt being gathered to it. The front and back are longer than the sides of the waist. There are two narrow folds of silk at and just below the normal waistline posing as belts, but effectively arranged. Either side of the front of the blouse is trimmed with buttons of self-material, while the V-shaped neck is finished with a draped collar.

Printed foulards are going to be very fashionable for spring. The prettiest models shown thus far are in navy blue, with design in red and in black and white mix-

### Patterns for Bell News Designs

The designs shown on this page are supplied by The Pictorial Review, New York. Patterns may be secured from any Pictorial Review agency.

tures. As a rule the designs are small, in contradistinction to the conspicuous patterns of sports materials and some of the Paisley silks.

A very pretty foulard frock in blue, not only has red designs scattered over it, but is trimmed with bands of changeable red and blue silk. Two of the folds are placed very near together on the straight, gathered skirt. In much narrower effect they are repeated on the waist, extending below the belt at the sides to simulate pockets.



A flat collar finishes the neck and the sleeves are of plain blue crêpe Georgette.

Neckwear is of utmost importance with the one-piece frock so much in evidence. The average woman will find that even the latest collarless dresses need a separate collar or vestee to insure the much-sought-for youthful effect. The flat collar comes in many delightful forms, embracing the sailor, cape, hood and draped effects. Filet lace effects will be of first consideration, whether used alone or in combination with hand-embroidered silk crêpe, fine chiffon, voile, organdy, or piqué. When sheer materials are used for the collar, they frequently will show new ideas in cross-stitch and shadow embroidery, accomplished in self-tone or in delicate pastel shade. The all-white effects, however, stand in no danger of diminishing in favor. Frequently they are hemmed with block or striped silks or stitched with several rows of narrow braid.

Block silks and large stripes make unusually attractive trimmings for the youthful frocks. No prettier design has appeared among the spring models than a youthful middy blouse costume of novelty suiting trimmed with block silk and white flannel. The flannel is used to hem the blouse and form the collar, while the silk forms the cuffs and reappears as a finish for the collar. Accompanying the costume is a white flannel hat whose decoration combines both the dress material and the silk trimming.

Fashionable dressmakers are fond of "dolling up" Russian blouses with striped materials of conspicuous design. A very good-looking model has a skirt of yellow jersey plaited at the sides, the front and back being in panel effect. The blouse is of changeable taffeta trimmed at the lower edge and about the belt, collar and sleeves with striped silk.

The straight-line effects are always attractive in white and the pale colors. White is to be worn more extensively during the spring and summer than was first thought, there being no indication that it will yield its popularity to the pastel tints, about which so much is being said and written.

Shadow lawn green is among the latest colors and it is exceedingly fetching. Most women will be able to wear it successfully. It is not too light to be bizarre in combination with white, nor is it too dark to be somber when worked up with black. In serge, it is used for an effective one-piece frock with gathered skirt and waist having the shoulder yoke and sides cut in one piece. Tan broadcloth is used to trim the skirt and finish the lower edge of the waist and collar. Machine stitching in shadow lawn green silk, in turn, ornaments the tan cloth. A very narrow string belt holds in the fullness at the waistline. The front and back are plaited from the yoke down to the hem.

There are many attractive cotton fab-

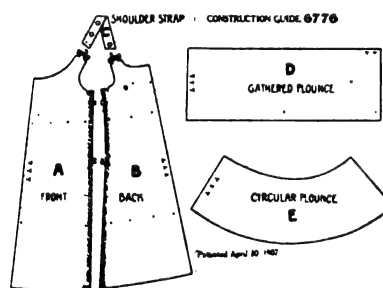
rics displayed in the shops. In fact, it is almost out of the question to buy a yard of winter fabric, everything else having given away to the spring and summer novelties. The range of patterns is exceptionally large, with a marked tendency toward unobtrusive patterns. There are lovely shades of blue, grayish green, dark red of a brickish cast and old rose. Pinks have scored the greatest success thus far, but there is a strong liking for the new greens and tans.

### A Corner for the Home Dressmaker

**This Dainty Princess Slip Strikes a New Note in Lingerie and Requires No Experience to Duplicate**

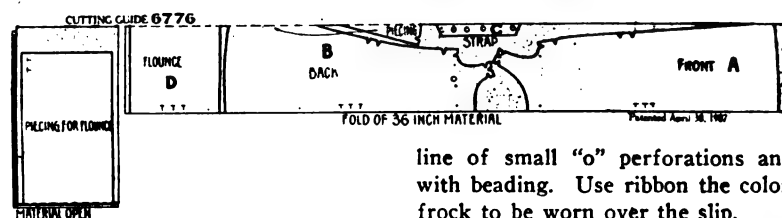
The princess slip that can be slipped on over the head is new and will undoubtedly prove a great convenience to the young woman who has to serve as her own maid. Many different materials are used in its construction, silk crêpe, tub satin, chiffon cloth, etc., being displayed in the expensive models. For daintiness, however, nothing exceeds this design in soft lawn trimmed with trucks and bands of lace insertion. If drawn in above the waistline with beading and narrow satin ribbon, it will have semi-Empire effect. The slip may be made with or without a one-piece gathered flounce with straight lower edge. In medium size the design requires  $5\frac{1}{4}$  yards of 36-inch material.

Since two or three of these slips are none too many to have in the wardrobe, it is well to know how to make them in order to save the cost of a ready-made garment. If the cutting and construction guides are followed religiously, the slip will develop quickly and without trouble. The piecing



for the flounce is cut from an open width of material, as illustrated. For the flounce, proper, however, fold the goods and place sections "D," "B" and "A" on the lengthwise fold. The strap and piecing for the side of the back are placed along the selvege of the material.

With the cutting out of the way, the



construction of the slip can be commenced. Close the under-arm and shoulder seams as notched, then stitch a band of beading one inch wide to position with lower edge of beading along the small "o" perforations in front and back; insert ribbon and draw gathers to the required size. If made round neck, stitch beading along upper edge; insert ribbon and draw in to the required size. Sew shoulder strap to front and back matching corresponding double small "oo" and single large "O" perforations.

If dust ruffles are preferred, sew a straight gathered ruffle of material ( $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide when finished) to position on slip, lower edges even.

For the gathered flounce, close the back even and turn hem at lower edge on small "o" perforations. Gather upper edge between double "T" perforations. Adjust to position on slip, center-fronts and center-backs even; stitch upper edge along cross-

line of small "o" perforations and finish with beading. Use ribbon the color of the frock to be worn over the slip.



# Safety First and Accident Prevention

Member National Safety Council  
Member American Museum of Safety



MANY OF LIFE'S MISERIES RESULT FROM PREVENTABLE ACCIDENTS. HELP PREVENT THEM

"LUCK" IS A MIGHTY POOR COMPASS TO STEER BY. THE CHANCE TAKER IS THE ACCIDENT MAKER

CAREFUL MEN RECOGNIZE DANGEROUS CONDITIONS AND WARN OTHERS

## The Spirit of Safety

What is it, this Spirit of Safety? We have heard and read considerable about the Spirit of Safety, but it is probable that all have not caught its real meaning and significance. Do we realize that, since the birth of industries, there has not been any phase of industrial activity which has accomplished more in all the years of its operation than has the Safety movement in its few short years of effort?

Why is this activity making for itself a place which ranks above all others? It is because of this Spirit of Safety which brings men into closer relations and because it is a common basis of thought and purpose. It is inspiring men to do things for their fellow men and for their families, to render an unselfish service and to recognize man-value in its full measure.

"Help the Other Fellow." That's the Spirit of Safety, and in the end that is what spells success. It brings out the best there is in every man and it strikes at the very source of poverty and misery, of oppression and gloom. It's the spirit that draws all men together by a common bond. It is a spirit of accomplishment worthy of the most sincere thought of the best minds and of the best thought and consideration of lesser minds, and is attained by a united purposeful effort of persevering men. It is reflected in the daily work and the home life of every man who is endeavoring to be guided by this Spirit of Safety; in more efficient work and better working conditions; in happier faces and more cheerful surroundings; in brighter homes and in more contented wives and mothers, because of the assurance of safety of husbands and sons; in better fed, better clad and better educated children.

Heed, then, the Spirit of Safety. Be cautious and careful of yourself; thoughtful and considerate of your fellow-men; kind and provident in your home and all good things to all men. In these things lie the greatest achievements of right purpose and true success.—Courtesy *Safety Bulletin*, Bureau of Safety.

## Safety First

He monkeyed with the buz saw when the buz saw saw'd its best.

It saw'd off half his fingers; now he's feeling with the rest.

He didn't stop Tin Lizzie when the crossing bell ding-donged;

If he'd heeded Safety's warning, his life would have been prolonged.

He leaned his little "tummy" 'cross a wire, red hot with juice;

For things that live ones eat and drink, his "tummy" has no use.

The moral of these tragic tales, we'll now proceed to burst—

The moral is remember—Remember SAFETY FIRST!—Charles H. Pier-son.

—*Edison Current Topics* for November, 1916, published by Southern California Edison Company.

## Let Me See You Drive and I'll Tell You What You Are

A long time has passed since the ownership of a motor car was an evidence of wealth.

We all drive now.

Not merely bankers, head waiters, and master plumbers. Even editors of magazines.

The number of automobiles is being added to at the rate of more than a million a year: a million new cars mean two million new drivers.

If driving is to continue to be safe and enjoyable for all of us, it must be made so by a tremendous exercise of courtesy on the part of every one.

Let me set down here some observations founded, not on police law, but on common sense *plus courtesy*.

FIRST: However unflattering it may be to the rest of humanity, I know of no better rule than always to assume that the other fellow is a bigger fool than you are.

Assume that he is going to turn the next corner without giving any signal.

Assume that his wife, who is with him, may at any moment take a fancy to a wild rose at the edge of the road, and have the car brought to an abrupt stop.

Assume, when you turn a corner, that he will be coming around from the other way, too fast and on the wrong side of the road.

In a word, keep a sufficient distance between his car and yours, so that nothing

he can possibly do can involve you in trouble.

SECOND: A horn can be either the vice of salvation or an instrument of torture, according to how it is used.

The courteous driver can make his horn say either "Please be careful" or "Curse you, Charles Montagu, get off the road." His horn never says one when it should say the other.

INCIDENTALLY, THE BEST DRIVERS BLOW THE HORN LEAST.

THIRD: The courteous driver stays just as close to the edge of his side of the road as it is possible for him to get. He never feels called upon to assert his dignity or to maintain his rights by edging as far out as he can.

HE KNOWS THAT THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD BELONGS TO NO MAN.

FOURTH: The courteous driver never uses his blinding headlights except on a road entirely unlighted; and he turns them down at the first sight of an approaching car.

FIFTH: The courteous driver recognizes that pedestrians and horse vehicles have rights as well as he. He remembers—however irritating they may occasionally be—that, after all, the road belonged to them for years before it belonged to the motor car.

It is the law of the sea that the sail-boat must give way to the row-boat. The power-boat must look out for the sail. Always the stronger must give way to the weak.

WHAT IS LAW FOR THE SEA OUGHT TO BE THE SELF-IMPOSED AND CHEERFULLY ACCEPTED ETIQUETTE OF THE ROAD.

FINALLY—The courteous driver—and his wife—make up their minds at what rate they like to travel best, and they jog along happily at that rate, enjoying the view, untroubled and untroubling.

If the occupants of another car desire to travel faster, they let them pass. They never race: never put on full speed when they hear a horn sounded behind them.

Never, under any circumstances, do they push ahead of a car in front by invoking a burst of speed, and then slow up so that their dust spreads over the car behind.

IN ALL THE CATEGORY OF MEANNESS, THERE IS NO MEANER

# MACK TRUCKS

This MACK worm drive truck is one of a number of MACK Trucks in the Chicago Telephone Company service.

MACK truck construction embodies the happy combination of simplicity and ruggedness, with all motor parts accessible and easily removable, with large bearings and especially heat treated steel, insuring long operation with a minimum of overhaul costs.

*Write for Specifications*

Complete Line of  
MACK TRUCKS  
1 to 7½ Tons

**International Motor Co.**  
**NEW YORK**



## Going Hunting This Spring?

You know the best Hunting is found in sections where Railroads do not penetrate. These Hunting grounds are easily reached with a

**HARLEY-DAVIDSON**

The single cylinder Motor-cycle of the hour and Six Horse power.

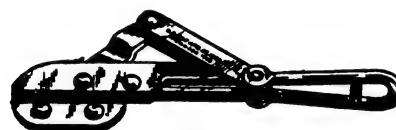
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1704 Michigan Ave.



CHICAGO, ILL.

## Genuine Buffalo Grip



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1360 West Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y.

Distributed by  
**Western Electric Company**  
OFFICES IN ALL PRINCIPAL CITIES

**Blake Insulated Staples**

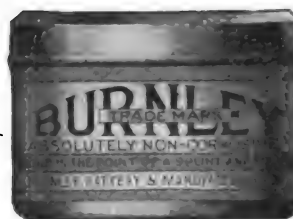
Unequalled for telephone and bell wiring. The fibre insulation prevents troublesome short circuits and grounds. 4 Sizes. Pat. Nov. 1900. Write for samples.

**Blake Signal & Mfg. Co.**  
Boston, Mass.

## BURNLEY

**SOLDERING PASTE**

Is a perfect Flux. Burnley Paste cannot spill out or drip away like liquid.



It stays where you put it and follows closely the hot iron.

Send for free sample.

**The Burnley Battery and Mfg. Co., North East, Pa.**  
WESTERN ELECTRIC COMPANY  
Distributors

### TRICK THAN PASSING A CAR AND THEN SLOWING DOWN.

Let me see you drive, and I'll tell you what you are.

I can stand by the side of the road and pick out the wife-beaters, and the fellows who are cheating the government on their income tax, the fellows that talk loud in theaters—

—and, thank God, the great overwhelming majority of good husbands and fathers, decent citizens, and courteous gentlemen—the wholesome folk who observe the etiquette of the road.—*Courtesy Every Week.*

### Some January Accidents

Read them over carefully and profit by the other fellow's experience!

A cable repairman left a one-pound hammer on top of a ten-foot stepladder and in moving the ladder, the hammer fell and struck him on top of his head.

A groundman was working in an alley and had occasion to pass a loading platform extending from a factory building. Men were working on the platform piling sheet-iron boxes. Three of the boxes fell, as he passed—close to the platform—and one of them struck the groundman on the head.

A groundman was taking lags off a reel and in stepping backward, he stepped on a nail protruding from one of the lags.

An installer's helper was working in an office when his feet became entangled in the cords of a desk set which was on top of a filing cabinet, causing the set to fall and strike him on the head.

An installer was drilling a hole in a brick wall when a piece of brick broke off and struck his left eye.

An engineer's helper was cutting pipe at a bench when a stock and die dropped from the bench, bruising the great toe of his left foot.

An installer was working on a subscriber's premises and in stepping from a bench about three feet from the floor, he stepped into a hole in the floor and sprained his right ankle.

A cable helper was heating solder and in putting more solder into the metal pot, he dropped a bar in and the hot metal splashed up and struck his right eye.

A groundman attempted to get on a moving wagon; he slipped on the ice on the road and the wagon ran over his toes.

A repairman found it necessary to go into a basement. As he was going down the dark stairway he tripped over a broom handle, fell and sprained his left knee.

### Accident Prevention Trophy

This month the accident prevention trophy for the suburban plant division of the Chicago Telephone Company will be found in the Hammond District.

The trophy for the construction department was awarded to the building cabling

division and Canal exchange again secured the maintenance division trophy.

Some excellent records are being made by the various divisions of the plant department and competition for first place in the standing of the various districts is becoming very keen. For the period ending January 31, 1917, the standing of the various districts of the three divisions of the Chicago plant department is as follows:

#### Suburban Plant

Place	District
1 .....	Hammond
2 .....	Wheaton
3 .....	Woodstock
4 .....	Harvey
5 .....	Aurora
6 .....	Special Estimate
7 .....	Waukegan
8 .....	La Grange
9 .....	Elgin
10 .....	Evanston
11 .....	Joliet
12 .....	Oak Park

#### Construction

1 .....	Building Cabling
2 .....	Garage
3 .....	North Construction
4 .....	Shops
5 .....	South Construction
6 .....	Supplies
7 .....	Cable Repair
8 .....	Central Construction

#### Maintenance

1 .....	Canal
2 .....	Beverly
3 .....	Main
4 .....	Douglas
5 .....	Wabash
6 .....	Central
7 .....	Rogers Park
8 .....	Monroe
9 .....	Austin
10 .....	Hyde Park
11 .....	Stewart
12 .....	Lake View
13 .....	Lincoln
14 .....	Superior
15 .....	Wentworth
16 .....	Edgewater
17 .....	Oakland
18 .....	Prospect
19 .....	Kedzie
20 .....	Irving
21 .....	Pullman
22 .....	Yards
23 .....	Calumet
24 .....	West
25 .....	South Chicago
26 .....	Humboldt
27 .....	Lawndale
28 .....	Belmont

### Chicago, Where Are You?

While working on the new practice board in the toll room, one student challenged, saying: "Chicago, are you here, are you there?"

### Players' Club Pleases

Nearly 1,000 people were entertained Tuesday evening by the Players' Club, composed of employes of the Chicago Telephone Company, which, with the Telephone Company Orchestra, visited us under the auspices of the Armstrong Neighborhood Association. They presented, in expert fashion, a highly interesting comedy, "My Uncle from Japan," and their worthy efforts met with the greatest display of genuine appreciation ever shown in the assembly hall of the school.

The play, one of the best examples of pure comedy, was presented by a well chosen cast, composed entirely of employes of the Chicago Telephone Company, whose work in this regard is unquestionably to be ranked well above that of the amateur. There were many women and children present who found great delight in every clever line of comic situation. Although the cast called for three character parts to be played by women, the Players' Club, composed only of men, filled the parts with players who are only "at home" in skirts when on the stage.

Space does not permit us to deal at length with the excellent work done by each player, neither have we room to do justice to the exceptional merits of the Telephone Company's Orchestra, but we can find room to say that we, in this neighborhood, are deeply indebted to the employes for visiting us and entertaining us so royally. We hope they will come again so that the 300 people who were turned away can be treated to the entertainment which was given to a packed house and thoroughly enjoyed by all who were fortunate in securing seats. —*North Shore News*, February 16th.

The club will repeat the play March 12th at the Chicago Hebrew Institute. The members who take part in the production are T. J. Hardy, C. E. Sutton, B. A. Hoke, H. Birmingham, H. C. Enault, G. H. Lev-erett, J. H. Riddel, and F. R. Kasperek. R. D. Wilcox is stage electrician, W. H. Chilvers master of properties, and E. B. Moebius musical director.

### Uncle Sam

The practice of calling the United States Government "Uncle Sam" is believed to have originated in the following manner: During the Revolutionary War a man named Samuel Wilson was a beef inspector at Troy, N. Y., and was very popular with the men in his employ, who always called him Uncle Sam. After the inspection of the beef, it was shipped by him to a contractor named Elbert Anderson and was always marked "E. A. U. S." A joking workman, being asked what those letters were the abbreviations of, replied that he he did not know, unless they were for Elbert Anderson and "Uncle Sam." The joke was kept up and spread until it became common to refer to all packages marked "U. S." as belonging to "Uncle Sam."





**A HAND  
PORTABLE  
WHICH IS SHOCK-PROOF**

It is impossible to have short circuits, to blow fuses, or injure men or apparatus with a

**BENJAMIN FIBRE HAND PORTABLE**

installed as an indispensable part of telephone equipment. All electrical dealers have them.

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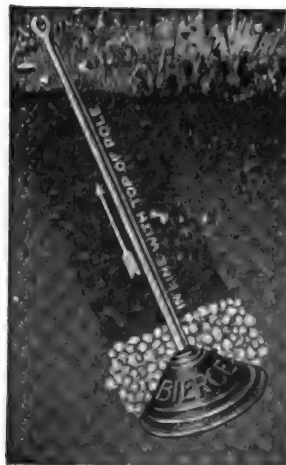
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**Lyon Metallic Manufacturing Co.**

AURORA, ILL.

Chicago Detroit New York  
Pittsburgh Cincinnati



Pat. Aug. 19, 1913

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BIERCE ANCHORS**

we claim that you are not getting maximum efficiency from the money expended for guying.

May we have the opportunity of convincing you?

Best by test.  
Increased efficiency of guying.  
Easily installed.  
Results uniformly gratifying.  
Cost very low.  
Exceptional holding power.

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**The Specialty Device Company**  
Cincinnati, Ohio

**WABASH 640**

will put you in touch with personal and experienced insurance service for getting most reasonable rates and broadest protection for your property, household goods, automobile, baggage and jewelry against fire and theft.

Get our advice—our firm is manager of the insurance department of the A. T. & T. Co.

**MARSH & McLENNAN**

INSURANCE IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

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**Discipline and Reward**

**SAVING** money is discipline. But more than that, it is one of the greatest rewards of discipline. Few things which require as little sacrifice bring such definite gain.

If you have never tried it, see for yourself. Open a savings account in this bank. 3% interest paid on savings deposits.



**THE NORTHERN  
TRUST CO-BANK**

N. W. COR. LA SALLE & MONROE STS.

Capital \$2,000,000

Surplus \$1,500,000

## Public Utilities Commission Rulings

### Increase in Business Rates Authorized Upon Petition of Subscribers

Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

The Morris Telephone Company which owns and operates a telephone exchange in the city of Morris, Oklahoma, made application for an order of the Commission permitting an increase in the rate for business telephones, in the city of Morris, Oklahoma, said application having attached thereto the following petition signed by 47 business subscribers:

"We the undersigned subscribers to business telephones of the Morris Telephone Company, Morris, Oklahoma, being advised by the management of the said company that on account of the heavy increase in the price of material, as well as increase of operating expenses, the said company is not making on its local exchange business sufficient revenues to pay the operating expenses of the said exchange, taxes thereon, and to provide sufficient funds to care for depreciation and pay a reasonable rate of return on its investment in property devoted to local service, it is our judgment that any public service business should have a sufficient revenue, if its rates are not unreasonable, to pay a reasonable rate of interest on its investment; and we respectfully petition your honorable body to allow the said company to increase its rates for business service, if after investigation you may find that the present rates are inadequate, provided such rates are not increased to more than \$2.50 per month; and, only, to such point as will provide revenues (adequate), together with the revenues from other classes of service, to give said company a reasonable return on its investment."

The Commission having investigated the revenues, expenses, and taxes of the said Morris Telephone Company, finds that its net income is not sufficient to give it a return on its investment in telephone property, and therefore finds it necessary to allow the increase prayed for in the petition.

### Subscriber Cannot Set Up Disputed Claim as Offset to Bill for Service

The Wisconsin Railroad Commission.

In passing upon the complaint of J. B. Thompson and others against the Wittenberg Telephone Company it was held, among other things, that the company was within its rights in insisting that disputed claims between it and its subscribers should be adjusted without reference to its charges for services, and that the subscriber was at fault in attempting to set up such a claim against the legitimate charges made against him by the company for services in accord-

ance with its legal rates, since such claim, if valid, was collectible by an action in court.

The Commission further held that the company had the right to adopt and enforce, without discrimination, suitable rules for the prompt collection of rentals for a reasonable period in advance.

### Rates Fixed by Franchise or Contract Not Binding on the Commission

The Public Utilities Commission of Illinois.

In passing upon the application of the Mississippi Valley Telephone Company of Carthage for authority to increase its rates at Hamilton, Illinois, it was held, among other things, that, since the Public Utilities Act was passed in the exercise of the police power of the state, all ordinances and contracts affecting rates or charges of public utilities must be held to have been enacted or made in view of and subject to the right of the state to exercise said police power in such a way as to disregard such ordinances or contracts if the interests and welfare of the public should so demand.

The Commission held further that the power of the Legislature to regulate public utilities could not be destroyed or limited because such regulation might to some extent affect the power to contract or even affect existing contracts. That, therefore, since the state had never divested itself of the power to regulate the rates of telephone companies, the Commission was not bound by the ordinance granting franchise rights to the company in Hamilton insofar as said ordinance established the rates to be charged by it in said city.

### How Adequate Service Is Promoted

State Public Utilities Commission of Illinois.

1. The proper remedy to secure adequate service in a territory occupied by a public service corporation is not the granting of a certificate of convenience and necessity authorizing another company to enter the field, where no steps have been taken to invoke the power of the Commission for the correction of such inadequate service, since this would result in a duplication of facilities, a divided service, and its attending evils; but in such a case the Illinois Commission will order the company already in the field to furnish proper service, and will withhold its decision on the application for the certificate for the purpose of making such further order as developments may warrant.

2. A telephone company will not be allowed to parallel the lines of another and take subscribers away from it, where there is no complaint as to the rates or service of the latter.

### Regulation Substituted for Competition

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission.

In passing upon the complaint of the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Company against the Projected Mutual Telephone & Electric Company, which sought to enter the village of Rupert in which the Mountain States Company was operating, it was held, among other things, that the prime purpose of the Public Utilities Act of Idaho was to substitute regulation for competition and to protect the public on the one hand and the investor on the other from the evils of competition, and that, therefore, to permit the Project Company to operate in Rupert would be violative of the policy of said Act; that, moreover, competition cannot be a constant economic regulator of public service rates since it results, in increasing the aggregate cost of supplying the needs of the public and that the duplication of investment resulting from competition is a waste of resources and an extra tax on the people; that competition tends to destroy the very groundwork of regulation and to withdraw from the existing utility the protection to which it is entitled in consideration of the regulation of its rates by the state.

### Rates Fixed by Statute or Municipal Franchises Not Binding on Commission

Public Service Commission of Massachusetts.

In the Bay State Rate case it was held, among other things, that said Commission had power to increase rates prescribed by municipal franchise or by statute, since the Public Service Commission Act authorized it to determine rates that are just and reasonable and repealed all statutes which would in any way limit or prevent the exercise to the fullest extent of any of the jurisdictions, powers, authorities, or discretion delegated to the Commission by said Act.

### Telephone a Natural Monopoly

The Public Service Commission of Missouri.

In refusing to grant permission to John A. Eby to construct and maintain a telephone exchange at Avondale, Missouri, where the exchange of another company was already located, the Commission said that experience has demonstrated that a local telephone exchange is a natural monopoly and that as a general principle the more complete this monopoly the more cheaply and conveniently the service can be rendered to the public and the less the interference with or disfigurement of public streets and highways.

## The New "Thompson-Levering" Test Set



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### Special Features

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A set the telephone world has greatly needed and desired for years, but never available until now. Its low price is the result of special design, quantity production and approved manufacturing methods.

Made, sold and guaranteed by the Thompson-Levering Company who are the producers of the highest grade testing instruments which are standard with all of the largest public service corporations in the world.



Klein's New Tool Catalog.

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It's our latest—No. 17. Full of live stuff—a postcard gets it. Send in your name.

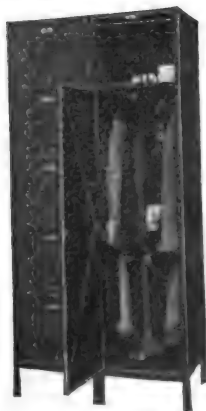
MATHIAS KLEIN & SONS, Canal Station 62, Chicago



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**CUTTERS**



**10-Inch** Clipper Cut Jaws, for 3-16-in. annealed bolts in the thread, or 3-16-in. soft rivets.

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Insulated Handles if desired.

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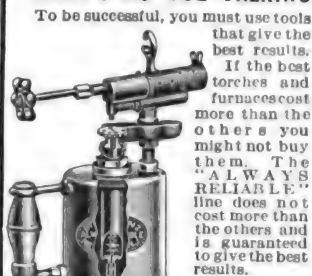
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To be successful, you must use tools that give the best results. If the best torches and furnaces cost more than the others you might not buy them. The "ALWAYS RELIABLE" line does not cost more than the others and is guaranteed to give the best results. Try some now and convince yourself. Your jobber will supply at factory prices. Catalog free on request.

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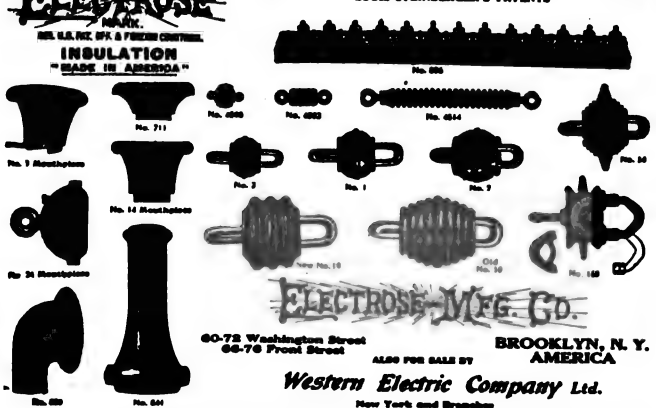
provides a practical, permanent and economical underground protective receptacle for your telephone cables.

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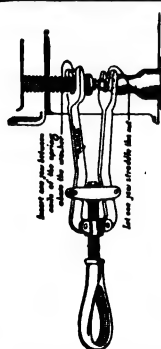
**AMERICAN  
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East Chicago, Ind.  
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### ADVERTISING

In the

**Bell Telephone  
News**

**BRINGS  
RESULTS**





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High voltage power lines everywhere use porcelain insulators on account of their long life and reliability. Porcelain is stronger than glass, and also less hygroscopic. Why not secure these advantages for your telephone lines by specifying THOMAS porcelain insulators.

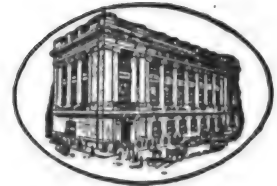
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If you have never tried it, see for yourself. Open a savings account in this bank. 3% interest paid on savings deposits.



## THE NORTHERN TRUST CO-BANK

N. W. COR. LA SALLE & MONROE STS.  
**Capital \$2,000,000      Surplus \$1,500,000**

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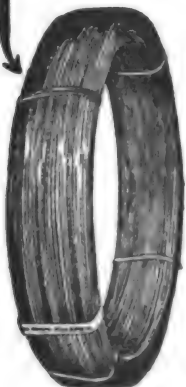
We Guarantee  
Greatest Efficiency  
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**Write for FREE SAMPLE  
Make Test and Comparison**

Approved by Leading Institutions of Technology and Telephonic Science. Handled by most representative Jobbers and Supply Houses.

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Muncie, Indiana



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Get our advice—our firm is manager of the insurance department of the A. T. & T. Co.

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INSURANCE IN ALL ITS BRANCHES  
**INSURANCE EXCHANGE  
CHICAGO**

# Bell Telephones

AND CONNECTIONS

In the Territory of the

## Central Group of Companies

MARCH 1, 1917

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Connected</u>	<u>Total</u>
ILLINOIS	665,098	283,420	948,518
OHIO	247,879	229,000	476,879
INDIANA	117,581	222,536	340,117
MICHIGAN	261,715	84,205	345,920
WISCONSIN	<u>173,803</u>	<u>151,004</u>	<u>324,807</u>
	1,466,076	970,165	2,436,241

# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

ONE POLICY

UNIVERSAL SERVICE

ONE SYSTEM

Volume 6

DETROIT, MICH., MAY, 1917

Number 10

## The Month in Michigan

News Notes and Personal Items of Interest

Julius H. Moeller, Correspondent, Detroit

### Eastern District

Cousins & Hall, florists in Ann Arbor, presented the operators of that exchange with four Easter lily plants at Easter time. The Flanders flower store sent the operators a beautiful azalia plant in full bloom. These two institutions never fail to remember the Ann Arbor operators with beautiful plants at each Easter time.

Owing to the deterioration of an anchor rod on a corner pole of the Detroit-Jackson lead in the village of Dexter, Sunday night, April 8th, the big pole snapped off and let the lead down over the high extension lead. District Foreman Sherman called on the Ann Arbor exchange for help. At 9 o'clock Wire Chief George Collins and a crew proceeded to Dexter, where they worked until 4 o'clock next morning making temporary repairs. Four other poles were broken off.

Miss May Smith has accepted a position as operator at the Ypsilanti exchange. A short time ago Miss Smith was an operator at the Main exchange, Detroit.

A new toll recording position has been added to the Ypsilanti exchange to help take care of the heavy toll traffic.

Mrs. Max Richards, formerly Miss Florence McDonald, supervisor at Ypsilanti, has resigned to take up supervising of quite a different type. Miss Harriet Hutting succeeds Miss Richards as supervisor.

The Commercial employees of the Ann Arbor exchange folded 5,000 letters of appeal and 5,000 folders, and with as many return envelopes in which to forward subscriptions to the local branch of the American Red Cross, and mailed them out with the subscribers' bills. In this manner the Ann Arbor Red Cross work was given a big boost by the commercial ladies of the Ann Arbor exchange. The following letter of appreciation was received by the exchange manager:

April 5th, 1917.

Mr. J. J. Kelly, Mngr.,  
Michigan State Telephone Company,  
Ann Arbor, Michigan.

My Dear Mr. Kelly: At a meeting of the executive committee of the Red Cross Chapter, the following resolution was passed:

Resolved: That the executive committee express their appreciation of the great help which Manager Kelly of the Michigan State Telephone Company has rendered in sending out letters for the finance committee of the Ann Arbor Chapter of the Red Cross.

Very truly yours,

The American Red Cross, Ann Arbor Chapter.

Winona M. Saunders,  
Secretary.

### Grand Rapids District

Ora Maines, district foreman at Marquette, attended the bowling tournament at Grand Rapids. "Zurie" came here to take away the first prize, but the change of climate from three feet of snow in Marquette and twenty-three degrees below zero to Grand Rapids weather with no snow and 45 degrees above zero, put "Zurie" out of condition.

Over two hundred young people attended the bi-monthly musical and dancing party of the Bell Telephone Society of Grand Rapids at the Ancient Order of Hibernians' Hall on Ottawa Avenue, on Friday night, March 30th. Short talks were given by R. T. White, manager of the Michigan

State Telephone Company, and Fred Saunders, president of the society. Among those participating in the musical program were the Misses Bradley, Gertrude Eble, little Mary McFarland, Irene Greenley, Tillie Spoelstra, Blanche Christianson, Edna Howe, Bertha Kreuger, Irene Koon, Esther Lofquist, Mr. and Mrs. John Lindner, Miss Eifert and Miss Heinzelman. The entertainment opened with the "Star Spangled Banner" and closed with "America." The splendid success of the program was largely due to the work of L. C. Steele, program manager.

On March 26th the operators of the Grand Haven exchange entertained with a surprise party in honor of Chief Operator Estella Beihl.

Miss Ina Doty, chief operator at Greenville, resigned on April 15th to be married. Miss Mary McKay has been promoted to the position of chief operator. Ethel Amidon will fill the place of relief operator.

Miss Mabel Yeomans, operator at Greenville, was quietly married on March 17th to Harold Green. The young couple will reside in Lansing where Mrs. Green expects to continue telephone work. Miss Della Kessling will fill her place at Greenville.

### Jackson District

The girls of the Albion exchange enjoyed a "hard times" party March 27th at the home of the chief operator, Miss Marian Beer. Mere man was eliminated and the girls said his absence did not interfere with their having a jolly good time.

The house was decorated with the blue and white of the company's colors, the electric lamps being shaded with little blue bells. Part of the evening was devoted to serious matters pertaining to business and the rest to having a good time. The routine in connection with operating was discussed along with other matters pertaining to telephone work, which proved very interesting and beneficial to employes.

An excellent five-course supper was served about nine o'clock, at which the motley-dressed crew enthusiastically car-

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### Our Front Cover

The photograph on the front cover of this issue of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS shows the new operating building of the Chicago Telephone Company on West Washington street, now under construction.

This building will be one of the largest telephone buildings in the world devoted exclusively to operating. When completed it will provide space for four complete units and possibly the entire toll and long-distance equipment of Chicago. The initial height will be eleven stories, but the foundation and columns are sufficiently strong to support a building with an ultimate height of seventeen stories.

ried out their parts as "hard times" guests. The prize for the best, or, rather, the worst, costume went to Miss Marian Campbell, whose brown calico dress would have been an open sesame to the heart of any superintendent of the poor.

A variety shower was given on March 15th to Miss Wilma Crippen, who was married to C. E. Swartout of Kalamazoo on the 19th. They were both employes of the telephone company in their respective cities.

The regular conference of the Battle Creek local operators was held on March 23d. After the business hour the girls played progressive pedro. Miss Mildred O'Grady was presented with a hand-painted plate for having the highest score.

Miss Caroline Robertson, a local operator at Battle Creek, has resigned her position with the company to go to St. Paul, Minn., where she will become the assistant matron at the Protestant Orphans' Home.

On March 3d the employes of the Battle Creek exchange received their last bonus checks, for which they wish to extend their thanks to the company. Many of the girls used their checks to start savings accounts.

Sixteen toll operators at the Battle Creek exchange went to the home of the chief operator on March 6th and reminded her of her birthday. After a very pleasant evening with music on the piano and victrola, the girls partook of supper. The table was appropriately decorated for St. Patrick's Day.

The Western Electric Company is installing two new sections of switchboard in the Battle Creek exchange to provide facilities for the rapid increase in traffic.

Mr. Gale, janitor at the Battle Creek exchange, returned to his duties after a short illness.

The Misses Ruth Fowle, Arcenoe Merwin, Evelyn Stoddard and Zelma Gaffield of the commercial office walked out to the home of Miss Mary Cookson at Urban-dale for breakfast Sunday morning, March 25th. This was the first of a number of hikes that the girls have planned for the summer.

On March 15th Miss Nilmah Wilson, chief operator at the Niles exchange, was given a surprise party at the home of Miss Maude Whitman.

### Kalamazoo District

Miss Nilmah Wilson, Niles chief operator, celebrated St. Patrick's day by attending a supervisors' meeting at Benton Harbor.

Manager Collins of the Bell Opera House entertained fifteen Benton Harbor operators on the evening of April 5th at "The Fall of a Nation."

On April 2nd Mrs. L. D. Hatfield, cashier of the St. Joseph exchange, tendered her resignation on account of ill-health. Mrs. Hatfield was just entering on her

nineteenth year of service, seventeen years of which she had been cashier. Mrs. Hatfield has been a very faithful employe and will be missed by the employes and the subscribers at St. Joseph. Miss Emma Becker of the traffic department, Benton Harbor, is filling Mrs. Hatfield's position.

Manager and Mrs. C. E. Vanderhoof of the Watervliet exchange were recently called to Owosso on account of the sudden death of Mr. Vanderhoof's father. They returned April 11th, after being at Owosso for two weeks.

### Lansing District

Miss Marguerite Stark, chief operator at the Grand Ledge exchange, has been ill at her home in Lansing since March 24th. Her condition is much improved and she will soon be able to return to work.

Manager Roy E. Crowe, at Grand Ledge exchange, has been wearing a smile for some time. The reason is new business, the exchange having shown a large increase in subscribers since January 1st.

Miss Belle May Wheeler is the new local chief operator at Lansing, having been transferred from Kalamazoo. Miss Wheeler has had considerable experience in connection with telephone operating and is very efficient at her work. She entered the service as an operator at Union City in 1905, going to South



MISS WHEELER.

Haven in 1907 as toll operator. In September, 1915, Miss Wheeler went to Kalamazoo, where she resided up to the time she came to Lansing.

Mrs. Ethel Grisson assumes her new duties at Wacousta, succeeding Miss Eva Middleton as chief operator.

Miss Nettie Arend succeeds Mrs. Welch as operator at Holt.

Miss Evelyn Spencer succeeds Mr. Grinnell as night operator at Holt.

Miss Gladys Ferris and Miss Lourena Rossman have accepted positions as operators at Dimondale.

Mrs. Leona Crostic, formerly of Lansing, succeeds Mrs. Gregory as chief operator at Mason.

The traffic department at Howell recently held traffic meetings which proved very beneficial in preparing for the Spring rush.

Miss Eva Cross of Vermontville will fill the position left vacant by the resignation of Miss Fisher at Eaton Rapids.

Miss Esther Heath, relief operator at Eaton Rapids, is now Mrs. Elbert Almstead, of Bellevue.

Mr. P. T. Mitchell, manager of the Eaton

Rapids exchange, who was confined to his home on account of illness, has now returned to his duties.

Miss Susie Hoffman, clerk at the Lansing exchange, resigned her position to go to her home at Collegeport, Texas, on account of the illness of her parents.

Miss Lilymae Wilkinson has succeeded Miss Hoffman as clerk at Lansing.

The Bell Club of Lansing is progressing very satisfactorily and its members are expecting to give another party soon. The club recently gave an enjoyable banquet at the Boston Cafe.

Four installers of the Western Electric Company are now working in the Lansing exchange installing new jacks and multiples. Although adding sufficient for 600 additional stations, the Lansing force insist that the capacity of the new switchboard equipment will quickly be reached.

Foreman Hayward relieved Foreman Davis in charge of the rebuild estimate now in progress at Lansing. Mr. Davis was transferred to Detroit. Mr. Hayward promises that he is going to keep the canvassing force busy keeping pace with him.

The heavy rainfall during the first two weeks of April gave the Lansing exchange force a merry time keeping up the service. With war rumors on every hand, the 600 pair Capitol cable went into trouble and it was only through the faithful work of the cablemen that the State telephones were working the same morning. Several days before the Capitol cable trouble, the cable serving the Reo Motor Car Company, the Olds Motor Works and the Reliance Engineering Company went into trouble, but was promptly handled.

Mr. Howard Herzog, who was granted a leave of absence on account of illness, has returned from his home in Lafayette, Indiana, to resume his duties as rackman at Lansing.

Russell Gould and M. D. Collard, of the plant department at Lansing, who were with the Michigan National Guards at Fort Bliss, Texas, were mustered out of Federal service and returned to their duties at Lansing.

Mr. Edgar Hanson, rackman at the Lansing exchange, resigned on account of leaving the city.

Miss Augusta Sabrowsky, toll supervisor of the Lansing exchange, who underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Sparrow Hospital, has returned to her duties.

Miss Edith Sabrowsky, toll operator at Lansing, is now in charge of a P. B. X. at the Lansing Stamping and Tool Company.

Miss Clara Schrader, local evening chief operator, and Miss Ruth Beach, operator at Lansing exchange, who were confined to their homes on account of scarlet fever, have returned to their work.

Miss Teresa Milne and Miss Bessie Burris, operators at Lansing, were given an enforced leave of absence on account of suspected symptoms of scarlet fever. It



proved a false alarm and they have returned to their duties.

Miss Marion Ruhf, assistant evening chief operator, and Misses Hazel Sebolt, Loretta Weitz and Frieda Wellman, senior operators of the Detroit exchange, have been rendering first aid at Lansing. Their services are very much appreciated.

A Lansing subscriber was calling 724 and received the report that the receiver was down. Apparently she did not understand and called again and was given the supervisor. She explained to the supervisor: "I am calling 724 and the operator tells me to put my receiver down. I have put it on the window sill and on the desk but I can't get any one."

Mrs. Mae Laird, senior toll operator at Lansing, has accepted a position as night toll operator.

The Misses Anna Smith, Tillie Smith, Jessie Miles, and Ione Grosbeck have recently been transferred from local to long distance and are making good progress.

Miss Mabel Ribby, instructress at the Lansing exchange for the past eight years, has resigned.

Miss Essie Fitch, senior toll operator at Lansing, has been made toll supervisor.

Miss Bertha Smith, toll operator at Portland, has been transferred to Lansing.

Mrs. Mabel Green, formerly Miss Mabel Yeomans, operator at Greenville, has been transferred to Lansing.

On April 6th a connecting company contract was closed with the Brookfield Mutual Telephone Company of Brookfield, Michigan. This company has 125 subscribers who will be connected with the Charlotte exchange by toll line connection.

During the last month the canvassing force of Lansing secured fifty-eight contracts for farm line telephones west of the city limits and within a radius of four miles. This is one of the best farming sections in the vicinity of Lansing where heretofore we have had no subscribers. In order to reach these applicants we are constructing new farm lines at an expense of \$2500.

On April 21st the Lansing district offices were moved into their new quarters in the Capital National Bank Building.

A contract has been taken for a P. B. X. in the Duplex Motor Company at Charlotte, consisting of two trunks and six terminals.

At Lansing a contract was taken for a P. B. X. to be installed in the offices of Persons, Shields, Thomas & Silsbee, Attorneys.

Mrs. Ruby Phillips and Miss Bertha Smith, both formerly operators at Portland, have taken positions as toll operators at Lansing.

Miss Bertha Russman is a new operator at Portland.

How's this for service? A man was driving from Grand Rapids to Lansing and was delayed along the road. On arriving at Portland he rushed to the tele-

phone office and placed a long-distance call like this: "I want to talk to Mr. Blank at Lansing. I do not know the telephone number or where he may be found, but I must have him within ten minutes, for he will have left the city after that time." He was about to remove his large fur overcoat, apparently preparing for a long wait, when the operator informed him that his party was on the line. When he emerged from the booth he remarked to the operator, "That was the best telephone service I have ever received. I never expected to get real city service in a small town. It has been only three minutes since I came in here. I thank you very much as well as the Bell System in general."

Speed in Lansing. A contract was taken by Mr. Wilson, commercial agent, at 1:15 p. m., Saturday, March 24th. The order for installation was en route at 1:30. The stock and the supervisor of collections were en route at 1:45 and on the job at 1:50. The installation of fifty feet was run, the protector and telephone were mounted, tested and O.K.'d at 2:15.

H. O. Brokaw has accepted a position as repairman at Grand Ledge exchange. Mr. Brokaw has been employed by L. J. Currie, district foreman, for the last year. His coming to Grand Ledge brings him back to the locality where he had his first telephone experience.

Will Howard, former repairman at Grand Ledge, has accepted the position of manager at Ruleville, Miss., with the Cumberland Telephone & Telegraph Company.

Miss Bessie Hilliker, operator at Grand Ledge, who underwent an operation at Lansing Hospital on December 26th, has fully recovered and returned to work February 12th.

### Marquette District

Fred Baker, who was assistant cableman of Marquette District, is rapidly recovering from injuries received in a fall on February 22nd.

Miss Ruth Danielson, operator of the Marquette exchange, has taken leave of absence, due to moving out of the city.

Miss Eva Derocher, who has been confined to her home with diphtheria, is recovering.

Miss Rose Pommerville has accepted a position as operator at the Marquette exchange.

The operators of the Marquette exchange received a beautiful plant from the Sorenson Greenhouse on Easter Sunday.

Miss Eva Derocher, evening chief operator at Marquette, was confined to her home for several days due to illness.

Miss Gladys La Londe, local operator at Marquette, was on the sick list for a few days.

Mr. Bishop of the Marquette plant de-

partment enjoyed a snow-shoe tramp around Presque Isle Sunday afternoon, March 18th.

The operators of the Calumet exchange enjoyed a snow-shoe tramp to a farm near Osceola on Friday evening, March 23d. A refreshing lunch was served to the girls before their return to Calumet.

After an hour given to "repetition" on Monday evening, March 26th, the operators of the Marquette exchange enjoyed a penny party. Papers were passed to everyone on which were written thirty-two questions the answers to which were to be found on a penny. Miss Verona Falardeau, a student operator, answered twenty-four and won the first prize. Miss Lucy Moyle answered thirteen and received the consolation prize. Light refreshments were served and all agreed that they had spent a very pleasant evening.

### Menominee District

Miss Gladys Lonkey, local operator at Menominee, has resigned her position and returned to Shiocton, Wisconsin. The vacancy is being filled by Miss Anna Reiter.

Work has commenced on the Iron river work order E-7 which provides for additional cable in the Burns Addition. The work is being taken care of by the district crew.

Miss Stella Osowski has been employed as operator at the Iron River exchange.

Miss Ada Mattson has returned to Iron River, having relieved Miss Alberta Rosanko, chief operator at Crystal Falls exchange, for two weeks. Miss Helen Frailing substituted for Miss Mattson at Iron River.

### Petoskey District

Miss Esther Olson, local operator at Traverse City, returned to work after a brief illness.

During the last month a traveling salesman called at the Traverse City central office and placed twenty-eight long-distance calls. He completed twenty-five and the remaining three could not be completed because the called parties were not at home. A number of the calls were overtime, many of them ten minutes long. The whole transaction was finished in a little over two hours. The salesman was profuse in his thanks and said that he considered that *real* service.

There are three operators at the Traverse City exchange whose service records are exceptionally good. Miss Effie Frayxell, local operator, entered the service in that city in July, 1912. Her first day's absence since that time occurred about a month ago because of illness. Miss Lucy Brown, night operator, has been absent only four days in the last five years. Miss Marvel Wilson, toll operator, has a record of only three absences in as many years.

On Monday, March 12th, Miss Rose C. Berg, toll operator at Manistee, was married to Frank G. Decker. Miss Berg had

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been at the Manistee office since 1911. The exchange force extended Mrs. Decker hearty congratulations.

Miss Augusta Peterson, chief operator, entertained the young women of the Manistee exchange at a linen shower given in honor of Mrs. Frank Decker on Tuesday, April 10th. Mrs. Decker was formerly a toll operator at Manistee.

On the morning of April 5th, Miss Olga Walters, operator at the Manistee exchange, heard the groans of a woman coming over line Number 513, T. Hansen's number. As she listened, Miss Walters heard the woman say, "Send someone over." Miss Walters notified the chief operator of the call, and the latter called Dr. Ramsdell who lives next door to the Hansens. Within five minutes after the operator first heard the call, the doctor was attending Mrs. Hansen, who had suffered a stroke of apoplexy. The family expressed their appreciation of the quick service on the part of the operators.

Mrs. Charles Nungesser, a Manistee florist, sent the operators a beautiful bouquet of carnations at Easter time.

Someone called the Manistee information operator, and asked if she knew of a farmer who wanted a man to work on the farm.

Someone in Manistee called for a number, and the operator reported "The line is busy." The person calling asked, "Central, are they very busy?"

The operators at Harbor Springs received a very nice box of candy from Mrs. Gladys S. Eaton of St. Augustine, Florida. Mrs. Eaton is one of Harbor Springs' summer residents and a subscriber to our service. Needless to say the candy was very much enjoyed by the operators and they feel very thankful to Mrs. Eaton for her thoughtfulness.

### Port Huron District

Miss Loretta Tuscany has resumed her duties as local operator at the Mt. Clemens exchange after an absence of several months.

Miss Elsie Pelter has accepted a position at the Mt. Clemens exchange as night operator.

Miss Blanch Miller, local operator at the Mt. Clemens exchange, has resigned.

Miss Florence Frederick is the new stenographer at the Mt. Clemens exchange.

Miss Zella MacLeod, evening chief operator at the Port Huron exchange, returned to her duties after six weeks' absence, due to scarlet fever.

Miss Cora Foster, local operator at the Port Huron exchange, has returned to work after being absent two months on account of smallpox.

Frank Dowse has accepted a position at the Port Huron exchange as lineman No. 1 to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Smith.

Miss Sadie Needham, Port Huron's chief operator, was absent from her duties on account of illness.

On April 2nd the commercial employees, the plant employees and the employees from the district manager's office, Port Huron, enjoyed a "pot luck" supper at Manager Johnston's residence.

Miss Loretta Kierman, toll operator No. 1, Port Huron, was transferred to District Manager C. C. Failing's office as district traffic chief.

A contract has been secured by the Port Huron exchange for one P. B. X. switchboard with two trunks and eight terminals for the Morton Salt Company, South Park.

Manager H. J. Johnston of the Port Huron exchange gave an interesting address before the members of the "Y" senior class, Friday, March 30th, on the "Mysteries of the Telephone."

Traveling Auditors Holland and Anderson audited the Port Huron exchange. District Traffic Chief Kiernan had charge of the conferences and much good was accomplished.

Misses Peck, Burkhardt, Tacie and James have accepted positions at the Port Huron exchange as local operators to fill the summer positions.

### Saginaw District

Dan E. Valentine, commercial agent, was transferred to the Saginaw exchange as adjuster. He succeeds Carl Reynolds, who resigned.

It is expected that the Saginaw exchange will have 7,000 stations by July 1st.

The telephone company recently lost one of its large toll users in Saginaw. The Wilson Company, wholesale meat dealers, suffered a \$75,000 loss from fire. Their toll business was very heavy.

F. D. Nelson, former wire chief at Flint, has been promoted to the position of district foreman of the Saginaw district. His office is at Saginaw.

Earl Krake, "trouble-shooter" at Midland, wrote a letter to Wire Chief Chandler on April 2d informing him that he was going away on a four or five-day vacation and was taking Miss Mary Alberte along as his bride. Mrs. Krake was formerly chief operator at Midland.

F. W. Sheehy, commercial agent in charge of the canvass at Saginaw, has recovered sufficiently from his recent operation to be removed from the hospital. Mr. Sheehy was under the physician's care total applicants measured up to the for more than a month. It is expected that he will soon be able to resume his work.

W. I. Waters, commercial agent, was transferred from the canvass in Bay City to that in Saginaw late in March.

Walter Smith, wire chief of the Saginaw West Side exchange, was called to the colors early in April. He is a naval reservist, and was sent to Philadelphia with his company for mobilization.

The Red Cross Society, in its recent campaign in Saginaw succeeded in enlisting in its ranks a large number of members from the local and district office forces.

Miss Doris May Kitchen, formerly toll operator at the Alma exchange, has been transferred to the toll board in the Saginaw exchange.

Miss Rooney, formerly an operator with the Central Union Telephone Company at Indianapolis, has been transferred to the Saginaw exchange.

Don Spencer of the Saginaw test panel, formerly a member of the regular army, and now a reservist, expects to be called to service at any time.

Ernest Versey was recently added to the Saginaw local plant staff in the capacity of student stock man.

Ralph Stuhler, son of Jack Stuhler, city foreman, has been appointed night wire chief of the Saginaw exchange.

Mrs. Marie Neumann was added to the clerical force of the local office at Saginaw for the month of April.

Miss Hazel Delaney has resigned her position as night operator at Saginaw. Miss Maude Reider succeeds Miss Delaney.

The B and V Electrical Company entertained the Medland operators at dinner.

On March 22nd the local and toll operators held their conference meeting at the home of Miss Ora Logan. After the meeting music on the phonograph and games were enjoyed. A dainty luncheon was served by Mrs. Logan. Eight girls were present.

Miss Kathryn Bailey served as chief operator while Miss Mary Albarte spent a week's vacation in Saginaw and Detroit.

Miss Nellie M. Currott, instructress at the Flint exchange, was married in April to John Edmundson of the Western Electric Company. Their telephone friends wish them happiness.

Miss Bernice Nixon, senior toll operator at Flint, is enjoying a two months' leave of absence at Albany, Alabama.

Miss Mary Chase, senior toll operator at Flint, is ill at her home in Quincy, but expects to be able to resume her work on May 1st.

Miss Ferne Newby, local operator at Flint, resigned April 15th, to be married.

Miss Arcola Irvin, local operator at Flint, was married on March 17th to Mr. Ludlan, toll repairman of this exchange. Fortunately the exchange is not going to lose Mrs. Ludlan for some time yet.

Miss Lottie Simmons, Flint local operator, resigned April 19th to be married.

Mrs. Jesse L. Hill (*nee* Crawford) resigned April 9th to go housekeeping. Miss Crawford was married in December, 1916, but her new home was not ready for occupancy until last month.

Miss Ellen Persence, local supervisor at

Flint, has decided to give her service to Uncle Sam and has joined the "First Aid" or "Red Cross Society."

Glen Thiell of the Flint plant department has shown a patriotic spirit by offering his services to Uncle Sam in the Signal Reserve Corps.

Extensive additions are being made at Flint exchange. The Western Electric Company, under the direction of Foreman Leete, is installing additional switchboards of 980 additional answering jacks, extending 3,500 multiple jacks, and adding 1,000. The entire toll switchboard was moved from the east side of the operating room to the center of the room.

The Smith Construction Company is progressing very rapidly with the three story addition to the Flint exchange. The three departments will be greatly relieved from the congested conditions now existing when this work is completed. The company plans the expenditure of a large sum of money in Flint this summer, which will provide enormous outside plant additions and extensions, including about twelve miles of additional underground conduit system. When this work is completed, the installation of 3,000 additional telephones will be well under way.

On the evening of April 5th, the commercial department at Flint gave a theater party in honor of Miss Fern Caldwell. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

The Sewing Circle, composed of the girls in the local and district offices at Saginaw, held its last meeting of the year April 2nd, at the home of Miss Lulu Dengler, local cashier. Every member was present.

Miss Hubertene Friske, for more than eight years an operator in the West Side exchange, Saginaw, was married on March 29th to William Frisk of Saginaw. The bride is exceptionally well known among the employes of the Michigan State Telephone Company on account of her long service as an operator. Mr. Frisk is well known on the west side of the city where he holds a responsible position with the Jackson-Church-Wilcox Company. The ceremony was performed by the Right Reverend Le Fevre, pastor of S. S. Peter and Paul church. Immediately after the wedding the young couple went to Detroit and other Michigan points on a short honeymoon trip. They will reside in Saginaw.

District Traffic Supervisor Kennelley of the Saginaw district has assured the operators of the Bay City and Saginaw exchanges that they will have tennis courts this coming summer. At present it is

planned to have a schedule of games in each of the two cities and later in the summer a tournament will be held. The championship in both singles and doubles will be decided in a series of elimination contests.



DANCING PARTY AT ST. LOUIS, MICH.

The employes of the Michigan State Telephone Company in Gratiot county, met at the St. Louis exchange recently and held a dancing party. Miss Rumsey, St. Louis manager, was hostess. Forty persons attended. Although games were played and refreshments served, dancing was the feature entertainment of the evening.

On the evening of March 8th, the employes of the Michigan State Telephone Company at Alma and surrounding towns held a party at Ithaca. A large truck, owned by the American Transfer Company of St. Louis, carried the fun makers from Alma, Breckenridge and St. Louis. The evening was spent in singing and dancing. At 10 p. m. the company proceeded to the Seaver House where an oyster supper was served. The party was a success in every way, and it is a certainty that such gatherings will come with more frequency in the future.

Miss Erma Landskroener of the district manager's office at Saginaw attended the party given by the employes of the Michigan State Telephone Company at Ithaca.

Miss Maude M. Balch, operator at St. Louis exchange, has resigned to take up other work at Belding. Miss Ella M. Shaver has taken the vacated position.

Misses Grace Posey and Clara M. Austin are new operators at Alma exchange.

Henry Turkish, cableman, and Harold Siller, cable helper at Saginaw, were in Alma clearing trouble in a wet 200-pair cable. Mr. Turkish is very proficient in the art of clearing "crosses," "shorts" and "opens."

Miss Ora A. Rumsey, manager at the St. Louis exchange, was called to Detroit on account of the serious illness of her

uncle. After returning home she received the sad news of her relative's death.

Clifford Vanderkarr, troubleman at Alma exchange, took a ten-days lay-off to make preparations for the building of a new home this spring. Pete Maloy worked in his place.

Mrs. Helen Smith Chesney, toll operator, was promoted to senior supervisor of the Bay City exchange.

Miss Ruth McDonald, local operator at Bay City, was promoted to the position of local supervisor.

Miss Helen Rau, toll operator at Bay City, has been promoted to traffic clerk.

Miss Violet Petts, local operator at Bay City, has become a toll operator.

Miss Lena Seidel, formerly toll operator, is now day information operator at Bay City.

Miss Violet Dickey, information operator at the Bay City exchange, resigned on March 1st to become Mrs. Alex. Dalrymple.

Miss Elsie Fisher has been promoted from local to senior operator at Bay City.

Miss Phoebe Weston, night operator at Bay City, resigned March 16th to become Mrs. William Payne.

On March 21st the girls of the Bay City exchange gave a theater party in honor of the Misses Jessie and Phoebe Weston, who left the service on April 1st. Thirty girls attended the party and all reported a splendid evening.

Miss Clara Gates, rural operator at Bay City, resigned on April 7th. Ostensibly she resigned because her parents were leaving the city. It has since been discovered that a certain gentleman by the name of Carl Westcott had persuaded Miss Gates to change her name.

Miss Violet Dickey was given two very pretty showers during the month at Bay City. Miss Adeline Rood was the hostess of one occasion and Miss Elsie Fischer entertained at the other. At the latter shower a mock wedding was held.

Miss Esther Kriewall, local operator at Bay City, has been promoted to rural operator.

Miss Eva Hough, local operator at Bay City, has become a toll operator.

Miss Bertha Schanz, local and toll supervisor for the last seven years at the Bay City exchange, has been promoted to chief operator. Miss Helen Chesney succeeds Miss Schanz.

### Sault Ste. Marie District

Miss Mary Kitchen, chief operator at Trout Lake, has resigned. She will enter the ticket office of the D. S. S. & A. and Soo Line Railway Companies as cashier.

H. E. Hill is a new plant employé at the Sault Ste. Marie exchange.

Mrs. Maude McKaig, who has been employed at the Soo exchange, left April 19th to join her husband at McClennen, Ontario, where they expect to locate on a farm.

The Misses Mary Gendreau, Lela Pringle, and Ruth McLay are new operators at the Soo exchange.

### Saginaw Operators Win Basketball Tourney

The "Y'S Bells" basketball team, representing the Michigan State Telephone Company in the Saginaw Y. W. C. A. girl's basketball league, won the championship of the organization in the middle of March, when they met and defeated the fast E. A. Robinson Club five in the final game of the schedule. The quintet is composed of the following operators from the Saginaw exchange: Belle Rogers, captain and center; Anne Flathau and Nellie Rogers, forwards; Voila Barrenscheer and Margaret Cushway, guards.

The champions won six out of the eight games played, and defeated two of the best fives in Bay City during the same season.

The Y. W. C. A. league is composed of teams from the various large business houses in Saginaw.

This was the initial tryout for a girl's basketball league in Saginaw, but, as the organization was so successful, it is assured that the schedule of games will be an annual affair in the future. The competing teams are coached by Miss Guy, physical director of the Y. W. C. A. The league seems to be very effective, not only in the physical exercise given to the players, but in the social spirit created by the organization.

The Michigan State Telephone Company's team, although it lost two games, was easily the best organized five of the league. Captain Belle Rogers of the pennant winners demonstrated unusual ability, both as a leader and player. Under her guidance the team developed into a wonderful offensive and defensive machine.

After the season had closed a banquet was given to the competing players at the

Y. W. C. A. Miss Warren of the traffic department at Saginaw presented the operators with monogram letters of their team in token of their good work.

### Michigan State Telephone Bowling League

The bowling season in Detroit ended April 14th and found Maintenance champion of the league. Maintenance has been doing some consistently good bowling and has filled the position of league-leaders in a highly satisfactory manner. Commercial, which took the pennant last year, ended in fifth place this season. Regardless of the final positions the various teams all join in pronouncing the season's activities successful in every particular.

Claire J. Petithory, chief clerk to the general manager, has been elected president of

Holland; Eldred and Pond, Allegan; Elsie Steinke, Hastings; Irva Purdy, Hopkins; Bernice Ewing, Wayland; Emma Palmer, main chief operator, Grand Rapids; Mary Peters, toll chief operator, Grand Rapids; Bertha Hall, evening toll chief operator, Grand Rapids; Marie Mittelstaedt, toll instructor, Grand Rapids.

The conference was held at the Livingston Hotel, as has been the custom for the last three years. The day was taken up with discussion of local service routines, traffic records affecting the district accountant, and toll service.

Due to the small amount of time allowed for the conference, it was impossible to go into all of the phases of operating to any great extent. However, a great many routines were thoroughly discussed. The most important of these

were: Tickets and their use; the proper handling of toll circuits, by both the originating and intermediate offices, and the handling of call orders. Tributary office work was emphasized, as the Grand Rapids district contains a large number of such offices.

C. E. Wilde, district manager, gave a talk at the opening of the meeting. He was followed by J. H. Brett, Grand Rapids district accountant, who explained some of the weak points of the traffic department in making out correct records.

The Grand Rapids *Herald* took a picture of all those attending,

and published it in the Sunday *Herald* March 18th.

The conference, as a whole, was a decided success from the viewpoint of those in charge, due to the great amount of interest shown by those attending, and the spirit of cooperation that was displayed.

### New Manager at Farmington

Carl Isaminger entered upon the duties of manager at the Farmington exchange March 15th, succeeding K. R. Wingrove. Mr. Isaminger has had extensive experience in the various branches of work in the plant department. He has worked at the Plymouth and Northville exchanges, and was also cable helper for Arthur Klotz in the Eastern district. More recently, he was repairman at the Northville and Farmington exchanges for Mr. Thompson. Mr. Wingrove has been transferred to the plant department in Ypsilanti. Mr. Isaminger entered the employ of the company in December, 1913.



CHAMPION BASKET BALL TEAM.

The Michigan State Telephone Company's girls' basketball team at Saginaw, which won the championship of the Y. W. C. A. Basketball League recently. The players are (back row, reading left to right)—York, Flathau, Nell Rogers, Guy. (Sitting)—Barrenscheer, Belle Rogers, capt., Cushway.

the league for next season. William Froelich, of the accounting forces, will share official honors as secretary and treasurer.

Following are statistics of the season's record made by the teams:

Teams.	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Maintenance .....	58	26	.690
Engineering .....	55	29	.655
Construction .....	53	31	.631
Plant .....	46	38	.548
Commercial .....	43	41	.512
Installation .....	34	50	.405
Accounting .....	27	57	.321
Traffic .....	21	63	.250

MacFarlane, Lindzay, Drean, Locke, Johnson and McCutcheon bowled the six highest individual scores.

### Grand Rapids Traffic Conference

A district traffic conference was held at Grand Rapids March 14th. The following were present: Misses Viola Van Alstine, Big Rapids; Ella Lindburg, Grant; May McKay, Greenville; Caroline Mueller, Ionia; Anna Corey and Edith Lindquist, Lake Odessa; Margaret Light, Sparta; Estella Biehl, Grand Haven; Louisa Van Anvooy,



## Cloverland

A Story of the Upper Michigan Peninsula

By GEORGE W. ROWELL, Jr.

John W. Spear of Marquette claims to enjoy the distinction of having introduced into the Upper Peninsula one of the most important factors in the development of that, and of every other community in the nation—the telephone. He came to the north country when it was still young and has seen it grow up into one of the richest and most productive sections of the country.

About the time that people were beginning to talk of the telephone Mr. Spear was running a general store in Negaunee and a grocery store in Marquette. Realizing the convenience of having such an instrument as the telephone was reputed to be, he decided to make an experiment. He broke out one of the panes of glass in his store and another in the dining room of his house and put a lamp shade in each with buckskin drawn over the small end of each lampshade. A string attached to a button fastened at either end to the buckskin covered lamp shades was strung to carry the sound waves. That was the first telephone of the Upper Peninsula, so far as is known.

"We talked over that string for three years, tapping on it to call the party at the other end of the line. We used that kind of telephone until 1879, when I had a man come from Detroit to build me a private line, as I now had three stores," says Mr. Spear. "I found it was so convenient to transact business over the telephone that I opened two more stores. Before the telephone business was organized in Marquette this line was put out of commission by a storm, and for a long time I was unable to find a man who understood telephones. At last I heard that James R. Dee of Houghton understood repairing them, so I had him come down. The year 1882 saw the telephone put on a business basis. In 1885 the Bell company came along and

bought the business. I sold out my private line of seven telephones at that time so that I might have access to all telephones in the community."

Since that time the telephone business in the Upper Peninsula has grown extensively. The number of telephones in operation has grown to nearly 20,000, and the majority of homes, both city and country,

fellow himself lived upon Grand Island while his immortal Indian romance was yet unwritten."

Jean Nicolet was the first white person who actually visited Cloverland. That was in 1634. Rumors have it, however, that it was also visited by the famous Cartier in 1540, as well as by Roberval, Champlain and early Jesuit priests.

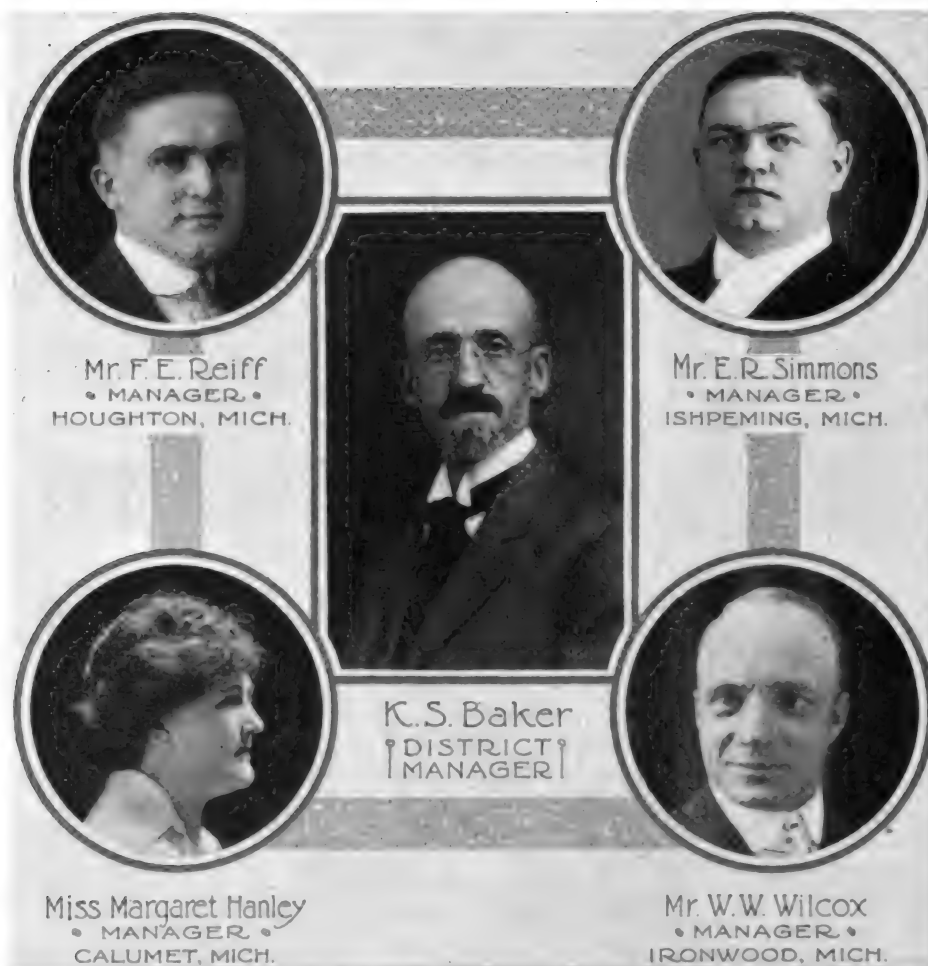
The Indian played an important rôle in the early history of Cloverland. The story of many fierce and bloody struggles is written into the annals of the red and white races during the years that followed the coming of the white men to this region in 1634. The early settler had his Indian, as Caesar had his Brutus. And then the quarrels between the French and English added to the tragedies. The war of 1812 rang down the curtain on hostilities for the time being, at least.

Cloverland was buffeted about during the forming of states, and in 1830 Michigan called forth her state troops in an effort to stop the government from tagging to her that part of Michigan called the Upper Peninsula. For many years

Michigan refused to become a state because it was the intention of the government to give part of southern Michigan to Ohio and add the Upper Peninsula to Michigan in return.

As Burns says, "Nae man can tether time nor tide," and as time went on Cloverland began to develop. In 1845 Burt discovered what later became the first iron mine in Cloverland. To-day practically one-third of the iron ore produced in the United States comes from Cloverland.

In 1843, with the help of a pig, Hulburt, a prospector, discovered copper in the Keweenaw peninsula. He had heard Indians tell of large copper deposits in this section, and he walked from Green Bay, Wisconsin, to Keweenaw, in search of the treasure. Just as he was tiring of his hunt he saw a wild pig nosing about in a hollow. He approached as the hog retreated. To his surprise he discovered a large cache of copper where the hog had been rooting. And thus, through this hog came the dis-



TELEPHONE MANAGERS OF UPPER PENINSULA.

enjoy the advantages that come with the use of the wonderful instrument.

The early history of this part of Michigan, which is now generally known as Cloverland, is interesting.

It was here that the first white settlers came to trade for furs with the Indians and the missionaries came to save the souls of the barbarous, yet picturesque, red men. It was in the old stockades, along the southern shore of Lake Superior, that the English and French, fought for their very existence, at times, against the awful onslaughts of the Indians.

It was here that Schoolcraft maneuvered for several years in search of Indian history that the government had asked him to write. It was here that Longfellow sought the plot which later was woven into that excellent and lovable poem "Hiawatha." He lived on Grand Island, just off the coast from where the city of Munising now lies. "The very spirit of Hiawatha hovers over it (Grand Island), as Long-

covery of what is now the famous Calumet and Hecla mine.

I wish I had the space to go more into the detail of this great mine with its wonderful history, its remarkable productions, its humane managers and its satisfied and high-grade employes. It is a story that might well decorate the pages of history. To-day Cloverland gives to the world one-sixth of the copper mined in the United States.

It was in 1850 that the lumbering industry of this great country began to develop. The ring of the woodman's axe had hardly ceased when manufacturing came, and today there rise into the air over each village and city of Cloverland great chimneys, whose black tongues of smoke give indications of industrial happiness.

It is difficult to give strangers a realization of the climate of this region. When the glaciers gouged out the Great Lakes, they put up a barrier in face of the frozen north that its cold winds could not overcome. A more delightful climate cannot be found in the United States than right in Cloverland. With the tempering influence of the waters of Superior, Huron and Michigan, this country possesses a climate attractive and healthful. The length of the growing season is one hundred and forty-three days. The first average fall frost comes about October 20th. The nights during the summer are ideal and the days are comparatively cool. During the winter the thermometer registers about the same as at Milwaukee, Chicago and Detroit. Although on the 46th meridian, our climate is milder than that of Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana and Maine.

The highways of Cloverland are well known by the tourists. The people of the Upper Peninsula are very proud of the good roads they possess. The historical and picturesque spots draw many tourists within the borders of Cloverland each year. The Upper Peninsula Development Bureau is this year planning what is to be called

"The Great Lakes Tour." It will start at Chicago, go up the shores of Lake Michigan on the east, cross Green Bay at Frankfort on ferries, to Manistique, and then through Cloverland, Marinette, Wisconsin, through Milwaukee and back to Chicago. The journey will take about six days. One

But grains, root crops, corn, vegetables and other products of the soil grow nearly as well. Potatoes this year with the prevailing high prices, increased the profits of Cloverland farmers to a great extent. More peppermint is produced in Cloverland than in any other spot of its size in the world.

Among the industries of Cloverland, with its wonderful mining, lumbering, and agricultural resources is the manufacturing of sugar from sugar beets. This root crop grows well in this soil and produces heavy yields each year.

Dairying is proving to be a valuable asset to Cloverland farmers. The Roycroft and Emglagaard dairies have carried off various prizes in state and national competition. The Roycroft dairy is the home of the Jersey. It is owned by W. S. Prickett, who hewed a farm out of the forests by the wonderful resources he himself possesses, and to-day Cloverland has a "model dairy," where tobacco is taboo and where each visitor and employé is examined for communicable diseases before he is allowed to enter its gates. Senator A. T. Roberts owns the Emglagaard dairy,

where Holsteins are groomed for milk and prize stock.

What the future of Cloverland is to be cannot be prophesied. What other wonderful ores remain beneath the soil is not now known. What will be the industrial progress when the water power resources are utilized, can only be surmised. What the agricultural possibilities will develop into we do not know. But if the past can suggest anything of the future, it is assured that greater things are in store for the people who are wise enough to grasp the almost limitless opportunities of this great region.

### Yanna on the Job

Fred Yanna of Bay City, a toll line repairman employed in the northern district



of the features of this tour is the fact that it completes a cycle and that when one starts out on the journey he is on his way home.

Cloverland is in the midst of wonderful shipping facilities. It is within twelve hours of Detroit, eight hours of Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapolis, and six hours of Milwaukee, Duluth and Superior. The Great Lakes open the commercial centers of the east to Cloverland and bring the greatest possibilities of industrial triumph right to her front door.

The production of clover and other wild grasses caused a man by the name of Quinby, a few years ago, to call this area Cloverland, and such it has remained. Wonderful yields of clover are reported each year. Settlers invariably remark upon the profusion of clover and grasses.

of Michigan, started south on a case of trouble. The line was "short." He found that the glass on the transposition pin was broken, leaving the wires in contact. He observed that the insulators on the adja-



IRONWOOD EXCHANGE.

cent poles were likewise broken and began to ferret out the cause.

His detective's instinct led him to the school-house, which he espied close by. He knocked on the door and was admitted. Permission was granted him to say a few words to the pupils.

Lineman Yanna then became schoolmaster, and for several minutes he gave the youngsters an interesting lecture on the necessity for telephone insulators, and the penalty for their destruction. The boys promised never again to throw stones at the tempting green targets.

### New Emergency Cable a Success

By J. H. Russell, Toll Superintendent.

The first opportunity that came to Michigan telephone men to observe the great efficiency attributed to the new emergency cable, convinced them that it is a vast improvement over the old method of making temporary repairs when telephone lines have suffered a bad break.

Preparing for the onslaught of storms that usually come during the winter months, it was decided last fall to place in emergency stock at Detroit, ten reels of 24-conductor emergency cable, to be used on the heavy toll lines in restoring temporary service in event of storm damage. This first stock of cable was a long time coming, but so was the first occasion to use it. Fortunately, the new cable arrived at Bay City just a few days before the devastating sleet storm of March 13th and 14th.

While the toll superintendent's office was busy getting information regarding breaks throughout the state, General Plant Superintendent Sharpe and Mr. Slater, of the Western Electric Company, were active preparing this new cable for service and they were prepared to ship as soon as word was passed along as to the point to which it was to be forwarded.

Points where bad breaks had occurred,

near Parma and Chelsea, were the first to see this emergency cable tried out in Michigan. Three reels were shipped at noon of the fourteenth, to Parma where a fourteen pole break occurred on the Detroit-Kalamazoo line, and two reels were despatched to Chelsea for an eleven pole break on the same circuits. The cable was cut in the breaks and service restored by noon of the fifteenth.

Considering the fact that most of our men were inexperienced in handling this kind of cable, the experiment was highly successful and satisfactory. It is very apparent that this cable is intensely practical and capable of speeding up efficiency to a wonderful degree. It enables linemen to make repairs on twenty-four wires about as quickly as it was formerly possible to restore service on one circuit with twisted pair wire. This gain in time is of the utmost importance in these days when the volume of toll traffic is unusually heavy, and when time means money to both the company and the telephone subscriber.

Twelve pairs of conductors, with the wires of each pair twisted together, comprise this emergency cable. Each conductor is composed of three strands of No. 23, B. W. G. copper (equal to one wire of No. 10, N. B. S. gauge) and is rubber insulated. The conductors are encased in a circular loom braided covering, the diameter over all being approximately one inch. It is quite pliable. The cable is provided in 1,000-foot lengths and is so attached to the reel that it can be unwound in both directions at the same time.

In placing the cable in service, the first reel should be set about three hundred feet from the first pole left standing, so that the one end of the cable can be carried to the second pole and there connected to the aerial wires. The reason for terminating the cable on the second pole is because it is not in the way of the men while they are making permanent repairs



JOHN W. SPEAR.

First man to use telephone in Upper Peninsula.

and it prevents circuit trouble while the work is going on.

The cable conductors are carried through a leather tag and the number of each conductor stenciled on the tag opposite the



MARQUETTE EXCHANGE.

conductor. These tags are placed on both ends of the cable, eight feet from the ends of the conductors. The conductors are attached to the line wires bearing the same relative numbers as those appearing on the tag. For example, conductors marked one and two should be connected to line wires one and two. Thus, there is no chance of making irregular connections. The same method is followed when connecting two cables together in the center of a break. When it is necessary to extend two or more reels through a break, the reels should be placed about one thousand feet apart.

### Employees Present Manager with Watch

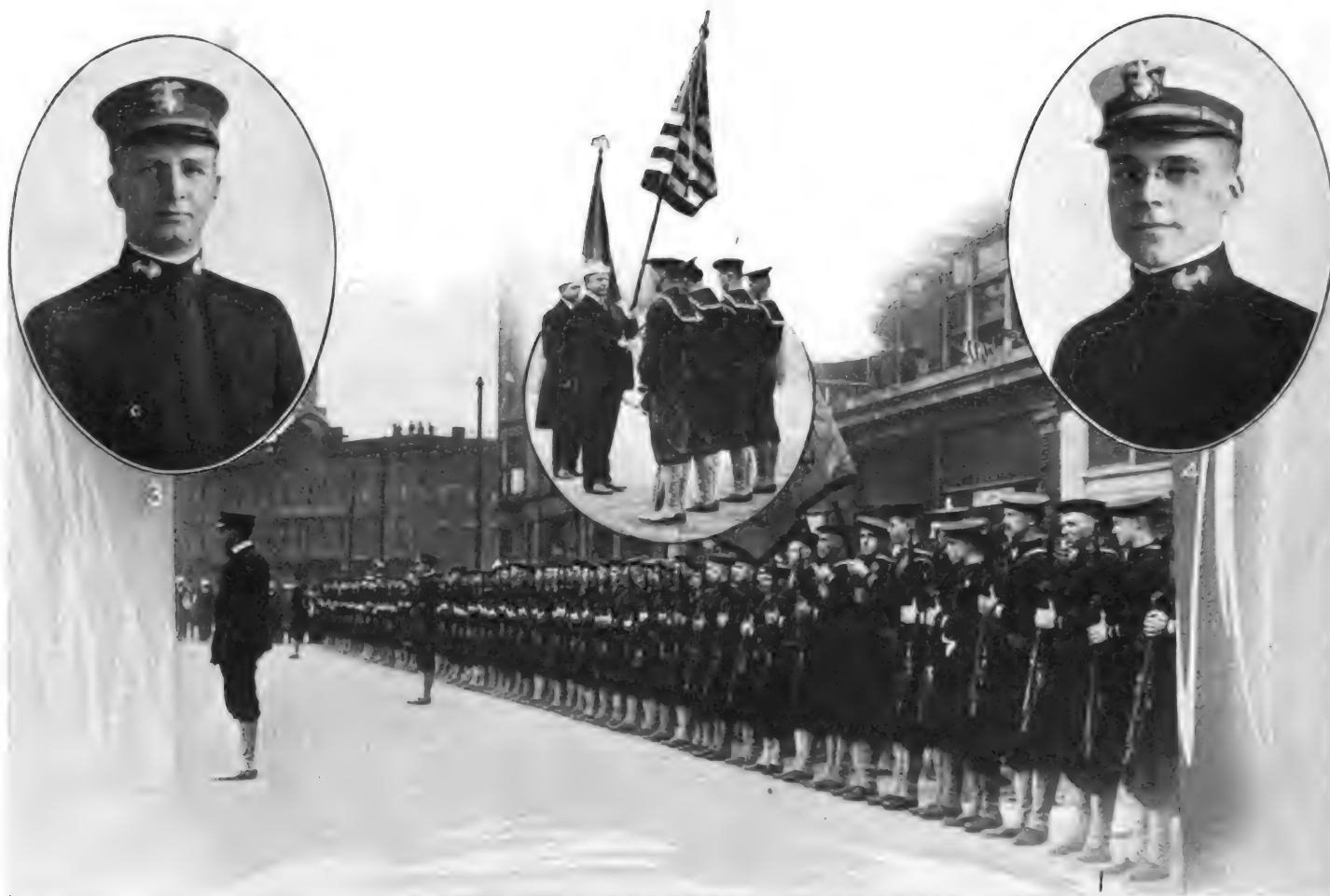
When it was formally announced that M. L. Saunders was to leave Bay City to take up his new duties at Jackson, as district manager, the employees of the exchange decided to give him a little surprise. On the afternoon of March 28, all employees of the plant traffic and commercial departments, were called to order and conducted to the office of the plant chief.

District Manager Mason of Saginaw and S. N. Gregoire of Detroit were in the city on that day, and of course had been advised of the time, place and "surprise." They promised their assistance in the matter and were delegated to detain Mr. Saunders in his office until everyone had reached the appointed place.

Mr. Gregoire "sneaked" down stairs about 4 p. m., stepped to the telephone and called Mr. Saunders, telling him that he was wanted on important business down stairs. Judging by his expression when he opened the door, he could have known nothing of the nature of the business.

Mr. Fitch, plant chief, acted as spokesman and in a few well chosen words told how much all regretted seeing Mr. Saunders leave Bay City. At the close of his remarks he handed a gold watch to Mr. Saunders.

M—



Upper left—ENSIGN GEORGE H. NORRIS. Upper right—ENSIGN HALE G. KNIGHT.

Below is shown the detachment of which they are members. In the circle in the center is shown the presentation of a flag to the Detroit Naval Militia.

Photograph courtesy Detroit Free Press.

### Telephone Men to Front with Naval Militia

Michigan's sailor boys have gone to war and with them went four employes of the Michigan State Telephone Company. George H. Norris and Hale G. Knight, each of whom holds the commission of ensign in the Michigan Naval Militia, together with Percival Waters, a private, will represent Detroit employes on the seas. Wilber Ashman, a switchboard man at Benton Harbor, will do duty for the state forces. Walter Smith, wire chief at the West Side exchange, Saginaw, applied for admission to the Reserves, but was unable to pass the rigid physical examination. Mr. Ashman and Mr. Waters are recent additions to the ranks of Uncle Sam's sea fighters. Both joined early in April, when the first call was issued for recruits. Benton Harbor employes gave Mr. Ashman a rousing send-off at a noonday luncheon, held in his honor April 7th, the day the mobilization order went into effect. He has been in the employ of the company since May, 1912.

Mr. Waters is a native of Washington, D. C., where he was formerly in the employ of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company. He came to Detroit a few months ago, and on March 5th entered the

employ of the Michigan State Telephone Company as a commercial agent.

Mr. Norris, assistant traffic engineer, state division, has had four years' experience with the Michigan Naval militia. Following graduation from the University of Michigan as an electrical engineer in 1913, he came to Detroit to enter the employ of the telephone company. Soon thereafter he joined the naval militia and was given a temporary rating as first-class electrician, being assigned to wireless work. During the four years of service he has taken a two weeks' cruise on one of Uncle Sam's big men-o'-war annually. Mr. Norris declares that he has found service in the naval militia both fascinating and enjoyable—a splendid education in itself.

Although a native of Troy, N. Y., Mr. Norris is really a product of Detroit. Here he attended the public schools, having come to the city with his parents in 1897. Serving their country seems to be a part of the make-up of the people from whom Mr. Norris has sprung, for his grandfather was among those who responded to the call of Lincoln for volunteers early in the Civil War. He is the son of Mrs. F. H. Norris, who resides at 77 Melbourne avenue, Detroit.

Long before the clouds of war hovered over the nation, Mr. Norris planned to

bring to a happy culmination a little romance that had been going on with Miss Helen B. Wade for some time previous. Promotion from the engineering department to the position he relinquished to go to war brought nearer the day when he planned to claim Miss Wade as his bride. Then came the war and the call to duty. Washington ordered the naval militia to mobilize Saturday, April 7th. That evening at seven o'clock, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Wade, 223 Lothrop avenue, their daughter, Helen Bellamy, became the bride of Ensign George H. Norris of the United States navy. Relatives and intimate friends were the only guests. Mrs. John Bomholt of New York City attended the bride as matron of honor, and Professor Harry S. Sheppard of the University of Michigan, a fraternity brother, assisted as best man. His friends wish Mr. Norris a safe return and a long and happy life.

Mr. Knight, who is the son of Dr. and Mrs. S. H. Knight, is a native of Detroit, where he has lived all his life, except the years he spent in college and the time he was employed by the Chicago Telephone Company. After graduating from Detroit University School Mr. Knight entered Harvard University, from which he graduated in 1913. He came to Detroit last



January, after having worked for the Chicago Telephone Company since last September, and was just getting nicely started in his work about the state inaugurating new accounting methods when the break with Germany called him to the colors. Both he and Mr. Norris are attached to the fourth division of the first battalion, Michigan Naval Militia, which was sworn into the federal service as the National Naval Volunteers. Mr. Knight has

seen service with the naval reserves since January, 1914, when he enlisted as an apprentice seaman. Aboard a United States war ship and sailing the high seas in search of enemy craft, Mr. Knight will be right in his element. The blood of the seaman courses through his veins, for he comes of a race of sturdy sea captains.

On Thursday, April 12th, the naval militiamen, with Ensigns Norris and Knight among their number, departed for Philadelphia, where they were to be assigned to war duty. Detroit gave the boys a rousing send-off. Cheering, clapping of hands, tossing of hats high in the air, bugle blasts and the tooting of horns were expressions of the emotion of Detroit citizens who saw the men leave for the front, and these were commingled with tears of relatives who saw their loved ones leave for an unknown destination and an even less certain venture.

### Telephone Employees Fight Fire at Saginaw

Saginaw suffered the most severe fire that has been her lot in several years when the Academy of Music, the city's leading playhouse and one of the few remaining landmarks of Saginaw's pioneer days, was entirely destroyed by fire of unknown origin on the night of April 17th. The theater was a large building covering a quarter of a city block, located in the center of the business district. With its wooden balconies, panels and stage, made more inflammable with the years of drying, it provided a perfect draft for the furnace of flames to level the building to the ground in a few hours. The building was erected in 1884. For years the academy had been the center of the social life of Saginaw, especially of the older citizens, and the loss to them has been much more acute in sentiment than in material. The greatest stars of the American and foreign stages have appeared upon its boards.

The mighty flames from the building reached far out into the surrounding streets and endangered every building within its



SNAP-SHOT SHOWING PROXIMITY OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGE TO BUILDING DESTROYED BY FIRE AT SAGINAW.

vicinity. The Michigan State Telephone Company office building, which is directly across the street from the academy, would have been a total wreck had it not been for the excellent work of all its employees in co-operating with the local fire department.

From District Manager H. R. Mason down to the office boy, the work of saving the company's property and assisting in keeping the flames from the nearby buildings was marked with unusual efficiency and ability.

The operating room of the Saginaw exchange is located not more than sixty feet from the ill-fated building. If the

building, which was between seventy and eighty feet in height, had fallen, it would have caved in the entire side of the telephone office. Immediately upon noticing the flames at 9:45 p. m., the operators notified District Manager H. R. Mason, who rushed immediately to the office, being the first of the company representatives to get to the field of action. Then the work of calling all the available employees began.

Working with unusual coolness and calm the operators, although suffering from the intense heat, called every man of the plant force, District Plant Chief Chandler and his staff. They also answered every local call without a break.

At the long distance and toll boards, which were nearest to the burning structure, the heat was so extreme that a canopy had to be thrown around the girls at the board. But with all of these disadvantages and the danger that presented itself, the operators answered every call and made perfect connections. The work was so perfect that the other exchanges calling Saginaw did not know of the disadvantages under which the girls performed their duties. Many of the operators who were off duty were witnesses at the fire, but as soon as they saw their friends working under so great a difficulty, they reported to the night chief operator and performed excellent work in relieving the girls.

A number of the local men were stationed on the roof of the company building, armed with fire extinguishers and two fire hoses in order to quench flames that might take root from the flying sparks. A number of the local men volunteered their services to assist the city fire department in fighting the flames, and offered them the use of all the steel cables they might need in performing their work. The company's steel cables were also used in razing the building after the fire had left the high brick walls in dangerous positions.

"Safety First" and "Efficiency," the well known slogans of the Michigan State Telephone Company, were never before carried into practical use so effectively as they were at this time. The decisive action and ability with which the employees in charge directed the work, carried the word efficiency to the "n-th" power. The coolness with which District Plant Chief Chandler and his men co-operated in the dangerous task of fighting the fire was admirable. The girls, who sit every day at the exchange board, never before worked with so much calmness.



SAGINAW FIRE.  
View from rear of building destroyed.

### Dr. R. B. Hasner Heads Health Department

A new department has been created in the organization of the Michigan State Telephone Company, whose object is to be to look after the physical welfare of the company's employes. It is known as the Health Department. Dr. R. B. Hasner is in charge, under the title of Medical Director. The offices are located in the building at Washington boulevard and Clifford street, in the suite formerly occupied by the general manager and his staff. Extensive alterations and improvements are planned which will give the department a complete and first-class equipment.

Dr. Hasner is a physician of wide experience. Following graduation from Rush Medical College and the University of Chicago, he was resident surgeon in the Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago. Later he was connected with the Monroe Street Hospital, also in Chicago, before moving to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to engage in the general practice of his profession. During his seven years of residence in Cedar Rapids, Dr. Hasner was company physician for the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company. He is a student as well as practitioner and has done considerable research work, specializing in the cause and cure of asthma. It is safe to predict that under the competent direction of Dr. Hasner, the health department of the company will be placed upon a plane of efficiency that will set a new record in this respect among the large corporations of Michigan.

Hereafter, Dr. Hasner's office will have charge of all medical records of employes throughout the state and they will be regarded as matter of a strictly confidential nature. Medical examinations throughout the state will be under the department's supervision. Its work will, however, extend far beyond that, as medical attention will be given free of charge to employes who are suffering from minor ailments and who are able to call at the office. In more aggravated cases, a diagnosis of the trouble will be made and the employe will be advised as to the course to pursue.

Dr. Hasner has a staff of seven assistants. Miss Marion Burrill as health supervisor, will be in charge of the nurses and first assistant to the medical director. Under the direction of and reporting to her are three nurses, Miss Monta Palmer and Miss Irene Armstrong, who will attend to examinations in the Operators' Training School, and Miss Anna Delahanty, who is doing field work. Miss Mercedes Barry is chief clerk and Miss Barbara Menacher, stenographer. Miss Nina Teno, until recently assistant chief operator at the North exchange, has been assigned to clerical duty and will also have charge of the receiving room.

The department has already demonstrated its usefulness in the amount of service rendered. The first week after the or-

ganization was effected, there was an average of one hundred calls per day and nurses were called out on thirty cases.



DR. R. B. HASNER,  
Medical Director.

Prospects are that the health department will soon prove one of the most valuable of the many benefits which the company maintains for the good of its employes.

### G. P. Holland Becomes Cashier at Detroit

People throughout the state, who have been in the habit of having G. P. Holland drop in on them as traveling auditor, will learn with regret that Mr. Holland has been transferred to Mr. Heywood's office in Detroit, where he will henceforth perform the duties of cashier.

For twenty years Mr. Holland has been making the rounds of the telephone exchanges in Michigan. He has visited every town in the state that is on the telephone map. His acquaintance extends to practically everybody in the telephone business. His genial and courteous manner made him popular with telephone people everywhere.



GEO. P. HOLLAND.

Mr. Holland is a telephone veteran of thirty-three years' service. His first experience in wire communication work came in July, 1876, when he entered the employ of the Western Union Telegraph Company, the very year that the telephone was introduced to the public at the Philadelphia Centennial. In 1884 he forsook telegraphy for telephony, entering the office of the late Mr. Carroll, then manager of the telephone company in Detroit, in the capacity of office boy. He proved an apt student of office management and when Mr. Carroll died, Mr. Holland succeeded him as manager. He was the last manager to occupy the little telephone office in the basement of the Equity Building, 68 Griswold street, and the first to exercise managerial functions in the building at Washington and Clifford street in 1894.

Mr. Holland has seen a wonderful development of the telephone business in his day. He has seen the number of telephones in operation in Detroit grow from 1,000 to 118,000. When he and his force moved into the new building, which was then considered an unusually fine structure, that part of the building now occupied by the contract department was sufficiently large to accommodate the entire Detroit force with ease. The building was then only half its present size but there was more than enough to satisfy all company needs and rent half of the main floor and all of the second floor to outside concerns. Now, space in the building is entirely inadequate to take care of the company's business.

In 1897, Mr. Holland was made traveling auditor, which position he filled until April 1st of the present year. He began this twenty-year period in his career by going to Kalamazoo, July 13, 1897, to make an audit of the office of C. E. Wilde, then manager at that place. A call at the office of Mrs. Helen Lawson, manager at Utica, March 31, 1917, concluded this phase of his life. Mr. Holland declares that he has at all times thoroughly enjoyed his work and is pleased to be able to number so many telephone people throughout the state his friends. Needless to say, their best wishes are extended to him in his new position.

### New Bell Club at Petoskey

A new club has been organized. It is composed of the young ladies of the operating department and business offices of the Michigan State Telephone Company and they are to be known as The Blue Bells.

The organization was completed Wednesday evening when the club was entertained by Mrs. Williams, the wife of the manager, at their home on Waukazoo Avenue. After the club plans were completed, a social time was enjoyed, St. Patrick's Day features furnishing much merriment.

The meetings will be held every two weeks at the homes of the members.

## Facts About the Signal Corps

President Sunny Outlines Plan Agreed Upon by Bell System Providing for Employees Who Enter Service

Colonel Reber, U. S. Army, Guest of Monday Lunch Club



COLONEL SAMUEL REBER.

The weekly luncheon at Chicago on Monday, April 2d was of unusual interest in that the speaker of the day was Colonel Samuel Reber of the Signal Corps of the United States Army. As President Wilson was expected to deliver a message to Congress later in the day, which would contain a request for a declaration of war against Germany, the occasion seemed particularly adapted to a discussion of matters pertaining to the army.

Mr. Sunny and the two vice-presidents, Mr. Burt and Mr. Hill, were guests at the luncheon also, and Mr. Sunny, when introducing the speaker, told the interesting story of Colonel Reber's long service in the army, how he had advanced rank by rank until he had reached his present grade and had recently been assigned to duty in the central department, United States army, as chief signal officer.

Mr. Sunny then outlined the plan agreed upon by the Bell Telephone System providing for those employes who entered the government service. He made it clear that enlistments and acceptances of commissions in the Signal Corps by Bell employes was purely voluntary on the part of the employes and asked that due consideration be given to the fact that while the filling up of the ranks of the Signal Corps is of the utmost importance, the continued efficient operation of the lines of the Bell System is also of primary importance to the welfare of the government and the country.

### Military Plan

CHICAGO TELEPHONE COMPANY  
WISCONSIN TELEPHONE COMPANY  
THE CLEVELAND TELEPHONE COMPANY  
MICHIGAN STATE TELEPHONE COMPANY

Chicago, April 2, 1917.

#### To All Male Employes:

Pursuant to the wish of the president of the United States, and under authority of the National Defense Act, passed June 3, 1916, the War Department is seeking the services of experienced engineers, construction men, linemen and operating men for the Federal Signal Reserve Corps who will voluntarily agree to devote their time, energy and skill to the service of their country, in the event of international difficulties, in which its interests may be placed in jeopardy.

In looking about for a source from which a supply of young men whose training and experience best fitted them to form the personnel of the Federal Signal Corps, the officials of the War Department selected the Bell System as one which offered the best material to be found anywhere, and thereupon asked the coöperation of our organization in bringing the matter to the attention of their various forces.

The War Department's request has been cordially acceded to, after serious consideration, and the officers of the Bell System now offer to those of its employes who are qualified an opportunity of rendering expert and patriotic service to the United States.

Colonel Samuel Reber, of the United States Signal Service, who is in charge of recruiting for the Signal Service in this district, has asked permission to appear before such male employes of this group as it is practicable for him to meet. Colonel Reber has already visited, or may visit, the cities of Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland and Detroit, and may from time to time visit other cities in this district.

This pamphlet is issued in order that the attitude of our several companies may be thoroughly understood and to explain some of the details which may interest those contemplating enlistment.

The Signal Service is more along the line of telephone work than any other branch of military service, and is recommended to those who may decide to enter the army.

In time of war or threatened hostilities more than at any other time, the continued operation of the Bell System is of primary importance to the government and the country. Most of our employes will have a patriotic duty to perform in the Bell service, and even should you decide to apply for service in the Signal Reserve



MAJOR JOHN J. CARTY.

Corps, you may be advised to retain your position in the company's service.

It should be, and we feel sure it is, a source of pride to every individual connected with our organization that the expert knowledge, efficiency and *esprit de corps* of the men of the Bell System has elicited from the War Department this invitation to us to render this service.

While the Bell System, through its officials, endorses the project unqualifiedly, it expects every man to be guided strictly by the dictates of his own conscience.

If, after carefully reading the explanation in the pages following, you wish to enlist, please send your application to your general manager.

H. F. HILL,  
Vice-president.

Approved: B. E. SUNNY, President.

DETAIL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE  
SIGNAL RESERVE CORPS  
MILITARY ORGANIZATION

The "Telegraph Company" of the army, which is part of the Signal Reserve Corps, is charged with the duty of providing the semi-permanent telephone or telegraph systems from brigade or division headquarters to higher headquarters, or to the base of operations. Telephone men should find that their experience in telephone work will make them more useful in a "Telegraph Company" than in any other branch of the military service.

A telegraph company, commanded by a captain, is composed of the following enlisted men:

Master signal electricians..... 2  
Sergeants—first class..... 7

Sergeants .....	11
Corporals .....	17
Cooks .....	2
Horseshoer .....	1
Privates—first class.....	48
Privates .....	12

Enlisted men.....100

Equipment: Eight motor trucks, eleven motorcycles.

A company is divided into two platoons, each commanded by a first lieutenant, and each platoon is subdivided into two sections. The section is the working unit in the company organization.

Two telegraph companies form a telegraph battalion, commanded by a major. The following enlisted men are attached to the battalion headquarters and supply detachments:

Sergeants—first class.....	1
Sergeants .....	1
Privates—first class.....	4
Privates .....	3

Enlisted men.....9

The term of enlistment in the Signal Enlisted Reserve Corps is four years. Applicants must be citizens of the United States or must have declared their intention to become such; and be from eighteen to forty-five years old. The regular army physical examination will be made before applicants can be enlisted.

#### IN TIME OF PEACE

In time of peace the Signal Reserve Corps may be given fifteen days' continuous field training each summer. The training this year will probably be given at Fort Sheridan, Illinois.

The men will be called for this service so as to interfere as little as possible with telephone company work. Signal companies of the regular army will be at Fort Sheridan to instruct the reserve companies.

Absence of employés from the companies' service because of membership in the Signal Reserve Corps is provided for as follows:

"Leaves of absence will be granted to such employés for such periods as may be necessary, in order to enable them to comply with orders of the Secretary of War in time of peace, requiring them to report for duty with troops or at field exercises or for instruction. Such leaves of absence will be subject to the following conditions:

"(a) The employé will be allowed full pay during the absence.

"(b) The employé will retain his eligibility to benefits under the 'Plan for Employés Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits' during the absence, and the period of absence will not be deducted in computing his term of employment for the purposes of said plan.

"(c) The absence will not curtail any vacation to which the employé may be regularly entitled under the general rules of the company."

Transportation to and from the summer camp of instruction is furnished by the

government, with an allowance of fifty cents per meal during the journey. While at the camp, subsistence is furnished by the government, and all necessary uniforms and equipment will be furnished by the government. The men will receive pay from the government for the fifteen days' camp service at the following monthly rates:

Master signal electrician.....	\$75.00
Sergeant—first class.....	45.00
Sergeant .....	36.00
Corporal .....	24.00
Cook .....	30.00
Private—first class.....	18.00
Private .....	15.00

As noted above, this pay from the government is in addition to the regular pay received from the company.

In accordance with the National Defense Act, June, 1916, the Secretary of War will issue to members of the Signal Reserve Corps a distinctive rosette or button designed for wear with civilian clothing.

#### IN TIME OF ACTUAL OR THREATENED

##### HOSTILITIES

In time of actual or threatened hostilities the Signal Reserve Corps may be called into service by the President as part of the regular army of the United States.

Absences of employés from the companies' service because of membership in the Signal Reserve Corps or the Signal Corps section of the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the regular army of the United States are provided for as follows:

"Leaves of absence will be granted to such employés when ordered to duty by the President of the United States in time of actual or threatened hostilities. Such leaves of absence will be subject to the following conditions:

"(a) The leave will cover the period of the employé's necessary absence on such duty during the remainder of the term of the commission or enlistment under which he is serving at the time he is ordered to duty, and during renewals thereof in time of war.

"(b) The employé will be allowed full pay, at the normal rate in effect when he is ordered to duty, until the end of the calendar month in which he is thus called into service; thereafter, for the period of the leave of absence, but not exceeding twelve months, he will be allowed full pay at such normal rate less the amount which he is entitled to receive from the government. If the necessary absence on duty continues beyond such twelve months, further consideration will be given to the matter of payment.

"(c) The employé will retain his eligibility to benefits under the 'Plan for Employés' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits' during the period of leave of absence, and such period of absence will not be deducted in computing his term of employment for purposes of said plan.

"(d) Upon return from such duty (after honorable discharge if the employé has left the United States military service), the

employé will be given such employment as the needs of the service permit and as he is able and fitted to perform."

Applications may be made by any employé not less than eighteen nor more than forty-five years of age.

Employés who are now active or reserve members of the organized militia cannot be enlisted in the Signal Reserve Corps.

Experience along any of the following lines, although not essential, will be very valuable to an applicant:

1. Construction or maintenance of any part of the telephone plant.
2. Operation of Morse instruments or the use of telegraph codes.
3. Radio operation or apparatus.
4. Operation of or repairs to motor vehicles.
5. Experience in military training.

Applications not required for the organization of the present five companies will be filed for reference in connection with the possible formation of additional companies later.

#### Compliments Bell Employés

Colonel Reber in his talk complimented those present on being associated with an organization that so generously provided for them under present conditions. He said it was not his purpose at this time to solicit enlistments. The object of his visit was to impress upon those who might wish to join the army reasons why the Signal Corps should be given the preference over other branches by telephone men, as their knowledge and training could be used to advantage in that division of the army. To make the matter clear, he defined the Signal Corps service as that part of the army responsible for providing lines for the transmission of military information, enabling commanding officers to keep in touch with the front at all times. The Colonel elaborated on the importance of this particular part of army work.

All who attended the luncheon now clearly understand the Bell System's attitude toward employés desirous of entering the military service and feel that the plan for caring for employés is an equitable one. At the same time it is recognized that each individual must make his personal decision when the proper time arrives, as the matter of entering the Signal Corps is entirely voluntary.

Through the courtesy of Colonel Reber, it is possible to give a short résumé of an article, by General George P. Scriven, an authority on Signal Corps activities, which outlines in a general way their scope and importance.

#### Auxiliary or Special Troops

In every properly organized army there exists in addition to the men who carry a rifle and saber or who man the guns, certain auxiliary or special troops upon whom the success of the campaigns depend and by whose services alone can the general in command hope to intelligently meet his enemy and oppose him with an adequate force.



An army fights with its guns, therefore it must have powder; it fights on its belly and the belly must be fed; in these days, too, it fights with its brains and the brain must be informed. In the United States Army this last function—that is the military information—is placed in charge of one corps, the Signal Corps. The concentration of this service has not only proven advantageous in the past, but will, it is believed, be increasingly so as the science of war advances.

Since the creation of a Signal Corps in the early days of the Civil War, its then simple functions have taken on great increase in scope and variety. The great extension of fighting lines, the destructive power of enormous engines of war, and the control of the master minds seen in the present war of the nations in Europe, are made possible, not only by the advance in mechanical arts, but by the harnessing of electricity and by modern methods of transmitting intelligence, which we call the transmission of military information.

The science of war has changed enormously since the days of muzzle-loading guns, captive balloons and messenger service. To this change perhaps no elements have contributed more than electricity and air navigation which are the two functions that permit the rapid dissemination of information regarding events as they occur, and have replaced the slow groping in the dark of contending forces of former years. With the use of these elements the Signal Corps is charged, but as a corps it may be said to exist for one main purpose: **THE SPEEDY DISSEMINATION OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OR INFORMATION.** It is the nerve system of the army by which information is transmitted to the brain.

#### Means of Human Thought Transmission

Many as have been the changes that applied science has effected in civil life during the past hundred years, no single one has been more revolutionary, perhaps, than that which has taken place in the transmission of human thought. A century ago the great semaphore system of France marked probably the farthest advance in the world's telegraphy. To-day uttered words over wire and wireless telephone systems pass beyond the range of sight or sound through the instrumentality of electricity.

The fighting world no longer moves only on the surface of land and water. The transmission of military information by means of the telegraph and telephone today in Europe and as long ago by our own army in Cuba, the Philippines and in China; the importance of the radio, the surpassing influence of the aeroplane and the many applications of science to the service of war have been of inestimable military value as aids to war. The trained soldier and the educated volunteer understand the vital importance of time in military operations and the need for immediate transmission of information.

#### Signal Service Indispensable in Modern Warfare

Hence, the necessity for a signal corps or its equivalent without whose aid modern warfare can no more be controlled than can a great telephone or railway system. Without it, the commander in the field remains blind and deaf to the events occurring around him, incapable of maintaining touch with conditions and out of reach of his superiors or those under his authority, upon whom he depends for the execution of his plans. Time is the main factor in war; to arrive first with the greatest number of men and with the clearest understanding of the situation is to succeed. These conditions practically depend upon the lines of information of the army.

Lines of information are no longer theoretical. Of them Major General Greely, a well-known authority on the subject, remarks:

"Their practical operation is the story of the field duties of the American Signal Corps in China, Porto Rico and the Philippines. Its work placed the White House within five minutes of the south coast of Cuba. It first located Cervera's fleet and first announced its destruction. At Santiago it stretched telephone wires along Shafter's front from San Juan Hill to Aguadores. In Porto Rico it opened up cables; and with the telephones and sounders of its electric lines keeping pace with every division, was in the forefront under fire. In China it followed Chaffee's columns, and, entering Peking on the heels of his victorious troops, alone kept the world in touch with the Imperial City for a week. It repaired Dewey's cable at Cavite, and directed the fire of the Monadnock at La Loma. In the Philippines its 10,000 miles of constructed and maintained telegraph lines and cables connected all tactical points throughout the archipelago, whether in the field or camp, under fire or in quiet intervals; not only did its campaign work shorten the insurrection, but also its existence later rendered possible great reduction of forces without endangering peace, more than once saving a garrison.

"It is perhaps not too much to claim that the energy and resourcefulness of the American Army initiated a new epoch in lines of information, when in the War with Spain it applied electricity to military uses on a scale and with a success hitherto unprecedented."

Men who make up the signal corps should be intelligent and well instructed and able to make efficient use of the instruments and equipment pertaining to the telephone and telegraph transmission lines, the radio and the aeroplanes.

Owing to the careful selection of the personnel of the Signal Corps of the United States Army, it may be safely claimed that the men of its corps are of as high a standard of faithfulness, industry and efficiency as do or can exist among any body of soldiers the world over.

One enormously valuable source from which to select this personnel is the Bell Telephone System, from which is now being recruited a body of men whose careful training and practical instruction in the

use of telephone, telegraph and radio equipment practically fit them for immediate service with those factors in the transmission of information. The wide general knowledge and information of these men enable them quickly to adapt themselves to the use of scientific and electrical apparatus; the inflation and handling of balloons; scouting and reconnaissance work of aeroplanes; the use of visual methods of signaling; cable laying and testing; the driving of automobiles and the innumerable duties which fall to their lot in service with the signal corps.

The signal corps is charged with the up-building of an efficient aeronautical service.

#### On the Firing Line

The duties of a corps for intelligence communication are not confined to the transmission of information alone, though that is its chief function. In addition to this service, its troops will have plenty of fighting to do, not only with the infantry at the outposts and at detached stations, but with the cavalry in reconnaissance work, and with both when serving with contact troops and with patrols. Indeed, this corps, whose soldiers are classed as staff troops, is, while in service, kept by its duties in the forefront of military operations.

#### Eyes and Ears of the Army

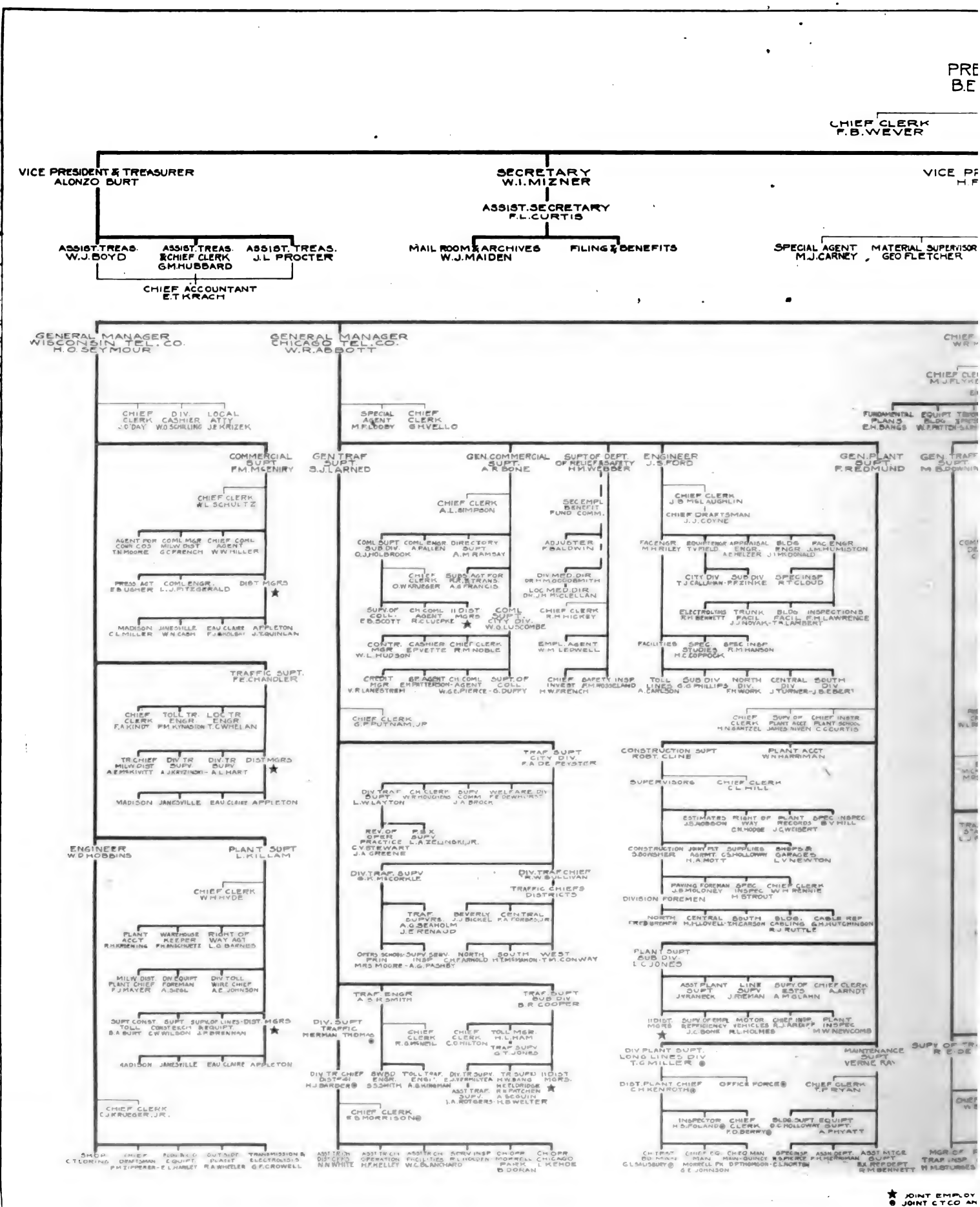
The chief duty of signal men in the end is to transmit information collected, but they must be alert to the events taking place around them. They should gather all the information possible and transmit it, through the proper channels, to headquarters, as is the duty of all soldiers. Obviously, while signalmen have unusual opportunities for the collection of information in the enemy's country, they have at hand the means of transmission as well, and thus form one of the strongest corps of observers with an army. Signal troops, and especially the aviators, have become the eyes and ears of the army.

In speaking of Signal Corps operations, a distinguished French officer has said:

"Information service fails especially because the world is ignorant of its principles, processes and modes of action. The transmission of intelligence demands special organs. Most armies give some telegraphic training to noncommissioned officers and troopers; it is lost time. Those partly informed are always incompetent; special-trained men are necessary."

It is with feelings of confidence that the famous Bell organization offers to contribute from its personnel to the Signal Corps of the United States Army, not "those partly informed," but those whose experience in the Bell System clearly entitle them to be classed as "special-trained men," and insures efficient, courageous, faithful and patriotic service in the promotion of the great principles for which this world war is being fought—Liberty and Democracy.

## ORGANIZATION CHART OF THE CENTRAL







## Another Chance for Patriotic Work by Bell System Employees



### Why Everyone Should Have a Garden

More vegetables in the diet means less of the higher priced foods.

Vegetables from the home garden are cleaner and fresher.

Working in a garden is a healthful and profitable recreation and relaxation.

It will lower living expenses, promote thrift and help to offset the prevailing high prices.

Well kept gardens add to the home atmosphere, and increase the value of property.

Gardens eliminate unsightly mosquito and fly breeding weeds.

The outdoor exercise alone is worth the effort, if nothing else is realized.



The production of Foodstuffs in this country *must be increased*. To this end, Employees of the Central Group in every exchange area are urged to form Garden Clubs. All may not Go to the Front, but each can do His or Her Share.

**Your Country Needs You!**





# How Bell Employees Can Help the Nation

## Opportunity for All Men and Women to Do Their Share by Cultivating Gardens

In President Wilson's message to the American people, April 16th, he says, in part:

"The supreme need of our nation and of the nations with which we are coöperating is an abundance of supplies, and especially foodstuffs. The importance of an adequate food supply, especially for the present year, is superlative. . . . Let me suggest, also, that every one who creates or cultivates a garden helps, and helps greatly, to solve the problem of the feeding of the nations, and that every housewife who practices strict economy puts herself in the ranks of those who serve the nation."

THE NEWS suggests to employes of the Central Group of Bell Telephone Companies that Garden Clubs be formed for the purpose of cultivating unused plots of ground in neighborhoods convenient to those employed in various exchange areas.

None knows better than a Bell man or woman the value of organized effort. The energies of our great organization intelligently and systematically applied to the raising of vegetables will be a tremendous factor in increasing the food supply of the country. What each club produces for its members or for marketing will materially reduce the demand upon the general food resources of the country for the army and navy, and the industrial army, doing its share of the work in the factories and mills.

The garden work should be as carefully planned and as systematically gone into as possible, care being taken to have it under the direction of those who have had at least some slight experience in outdoor work.

THE BELL TELEPHONE NEWS will be glad to coöperate with individuals or clubs organized in the Central Group, in securing information from local, state and national bureaus whose business it is to furnish help and advice gratis.

The Garden Bureau of Chicago is located in Room 507, City Hall, telephone Main 447. Literature of practical value may be obtained there free of charge and seeds may be bought at wholesale prices.

You can obtain seeds without cost by sending your name and address to your representative at Washington, stating the kind desired.

You can obtain information on any garden crop or product by writing to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., or by addressing your state agricultural school.

### How to Start a Garden and What to Plant

#### IN GENERAL

The garden should be well manured.

Manure not only furnishes plant food, but it loosens the soil, lets in the air, saves the moisture.

Harrow the garden until the soil is firm and fine. Use a hand rake if the garden is small.

Plant radishes, lettuce, cabbage, etc., several times during the season, so that you will have a continuous supply coming throughout the summer.

Rake, hoe or cultivate the garden every few days—first, to save moisture; second, to kill weeds.

Fall plowing loosens the soil, catches and holds the winter rains and snows, and stores this moisture for the following season.

Ground that is plowed in the fall can be worked early in the spring, just as soon as the top dries off.

### What to Plant and How

#### POTATOES.

The potato thrives best in a sandy loam, but can be grown in almost any soil, provided only that it has proper drainage, as a heavy, wet soil is positively harmful to it. This crop requires rotation, so that a soil well fertilized for some other crop the season before is especially desirable. Plow deeply and harrow well. Cut the potatoes a few days before planting and sow the pieces 12 to 15 inches apart in rows 3 feet apart. In the field they may be gone over with a light harrow, just before they come up, to destroy young weeds. Afterward cultivate often and deep as long as possible without injuring the plants. Plant in the latter half of April so as to harvest in August.

A very early sowing of an extra early potato, cut in rather large pieces to insure an early start, with a dressing of quick-acting fertilizer to stimulate growth, will give an early growth of new potatoes.

When the first bugs appear, get rid of them before they can lay their eggs. Pick them off by hand or spray them with a mixture of paris green and plaster, or Slug Shot, or mix one tablespoonful of paris green to a quart of water, and, keeping it well stirred, spray the plants.

#### ONIONS.

Three things are necessary for the best results with onions: High manuring, selected seed, and careful and constant cultivation. Prepare soil in the fall, applying well-rotted manure freely after removing all refuse. In the spring as soon as the soil can be worked, give a dressing of ground bone and cultivate until the soil is mellow and fine. Then sow the seed, which should have as early a start as possible, in straight rows twelve to fifteen inches apart. Sow about one-half inch deep and about one inch apart, firming the soil well over them.

As soon as the tiny green shoots are visible, cultivate thoroughly with wheel or scuffle hoe and repeat the process every ten days, for three or four weedings, after which further cultivation should be unnecessary, though it is always helpful. When two or three inches high, thin the onions to from two to four inches apart, according to variety. When the bulbs are well matured, about the middle of August, take them up and spread them upon the ground for a week, turning them every day to dry them properly. Use those with thick necks immediately, for they will not keep. Store the others in a dry, airy place and protect them from severe cold.

#### BEANS

Accommodate themselves to any soil; do best on sandy loam; need potash which can be applied in combination with truck-manure; plant early in May and for succession, plant at intervals of about a week or ten days.

**BUSH OR STRING BEANS:** Sow when the weather is settled in rows of about fifteen inches apart with plants about four inches apart in rows. Keep surface soil soft and the rows free from weeds. Do not cultivate when the plants are in bloom or when the vines are wet or damp with morning dew.

**POLE AND LIMA BEANS:** Plant when weather is settled and the ground is warm. Set poles three to four feet apart. Plant six to eight beans in each hill, thinning when well started to the four strongest. Limas should be planted a little later than the other running beans, in the most favorable location possible, as they are very late in maturing. Sow in hills or rows and allow to run on chicken wire or strings and thin to eight or ten inches apart. The bush lima is more easily grown than the tall and earlier and more economical of space.

#### SWEET CORN.

Plant in a field with rich soil and warm exposure. Make the first planting about May 1st, and sow every two weeks thereafter until about the middle of July for a succession. Plant in hills three or four feet apart, according to the size of the variety or strength of the soil, or in drills three feet apart and eight inches apart in the drill. Cultivate often and thoroughly. One quart of seed plants one hundred yards of row. Following are good varieties to plant for succession, all to be planted at the same time:

Early: Malakoff, Mammoth White Cory, Golden Bantam.

Second, Early: Champion, Black Mexican.

Late: Stowell's Evergreen, Country Gentleman.

### M. S. T. Engineering Club Meeting

The M. S. T. Engineering Club, which was formed on March 12th, held its first meeting on Monday, April 9th, in the drafting room of the engineering department in the Griswold Building.

Arrangements had been made for an interesting talk on general features of telephone engineering and the problems which are now confronting the company; but after those arrangements were made, war was declared by Congress and the subject of war and preparations for war became the prime issue in the minds of most men. As there were really only a very few who understood very much about the organization of the army and navy it was thought to be an opportune time for enlightenment. Therefore, some of the army men were consulted and Captain Hinckley of the Thirty-first Regiment of the Michigan National Guard, was secured as a speaker. Captain Hinckley gave a very interesting talk on "Army Organization and Army Methods" and explained many of the fundamental things which everyone should know.

Mr. Kittredge also gave a brief talk outlining what "Preparation for War" means from the standpoint of the telephone company and defined the attitude of the company, which, in general, is to cooperate to the fullest extent with the Government.

The meeting was very well attended, a very large proportion of the members being present.

### Overland Company in Courtesy Campaign

On the mouthpiece of every telephone in the big Willys-Overland plant in Toledo, Ohio, has been hung a card bearing the following advice from the president of the company:

"I know of nothing that can make so good an impression as care and thoughtfulness in telephoning.

"First impressions are lasting impressions. Too great abruptness or small discourtesies on the telephone are unforgivable.

"Big business is made up of doing all the small things well.

"Please let this organization be known as one that goes just a step further than may seem necessary in the matter of courtesy.

"This is something in which every employé, regardless of position, can help.

"I am confident of your usual good co-operation. (Signed) "J. N. WILLYS."

### Three Promotions at Bay City

Recognition of good service through promotion has been the order of the day at Bay City, beginning with the promotion of M. L. Saunders, former manager, who was transferred to the position of district manager at Jackson.

Officials believe they have found in H.



MEN WHO WERE PROMOTED AT BAY CITY.

(1) Grant MacLaughlin, New Testman; (2) Mr. H. E. Fitch, New Manager; (3) M. Standacher, New Wire Chief.

E. Fitch a worthy successor to Mr. Saunders as head of the Bay City office. He is a native of Bay City, has always lived there and stands high in the regard of his fellow-townsmen.

Mr. Fitch made his first venture into the telephone field in 1897, taking a position as installer under E. G. Pike, then local manager, and now division commercial superintendent at Houston, Texas. After working at this for about a year, he believed he would find a position with the street railway company more to his liking and entered upon the duties of lineman. Success in the electrical field brought him the foremanship with the Union Gas & Electric Company a little later, but by 1901 he had definitely come to the conclusion that he was right in the first place, and decided to return to the ranks of Bell employes. After serving as lineman and city foreman, Mr. Fitch was advanced to the position of wire chief a year ago, which became a stepping stone to the manager's office. Mr. Fitch has many friends in Bay City to wish him well in his new position.

Fred Standacher, until recently testman at Bay City, became wire chief on the advancement of Mr. Fitch to the position of manager. He entered the employ of the company in 1909 as installer's helper and soon became a full fledged installer. In June, 1910, he assumed the duties of repairman. He made good at "shooting trouble" local, toll and P. B. X. and thus gained the experience that fitted him for the position of testman. He was in the latter position only a year when the opportunity came to go a notch higher and now he holds the title of wire chief. Like Mr. Fitch, he is a Bay City man, whose promotion meets with favor with Bay City subscribers.

Looking for an all-round man to succeed

Mr. Standacher, the official eye rested on Grant MacLaughlin. It was recalled that he had filled about every position in the exchange and that he had made good at every task that had ever been assigned him. He was the logical choice for test man and that is the position he holds to-day. His friends predict an unusually rosy future.

### Major Waldo Addresses Chief Clerks

The general manager, several department heads and their subordinates were guests of the Chief Clerk's Club at their regular meeting at the Hotel Cadillac April 23d. The occasion was the presence of Major George C. Waldo, of the Thirty-first Michigan, who had agreed to give an address on military matters.

Major Waldo devoted the greater part of his speech to describing the rudiments of military training. The soldier must be put in proper physical condition before he can assume the hardships of a campaign. He pointed out the difference between European fighting and any that might take place in America, saying that whereas there is a great deal of trench warfare in Europe, there would be very little of that in this country. Here, operations would be conducted more in the open, for lines would terminate at some point where it would be possible to institute a flank movement, compelling a withdrawal from trenches, if there were any. The fact that the western lines in Europe run from the sea to Switzerland makes it practically impossible to conduct anything but straight frontal attacks, which results in trench warfare.

Because of this difference in the nature of fighting, Major Waldo declared the recruit would have to undergo a course in physical training before he could enter upon the performance of military duty. The American soldier must be essentially a marching soldier.

The care of the feet is given special attention, for a soldier is not better than his feet. Men trained to treat foot ailments accompany the army and attend to the slightest foot trouble.

The formation of an army from the smallest unit to the largest was described and the whole scheme of army organization was explained. Major Waldo pictured troops going into action and told how orders are given on the firing line by means of whistle and arm signals. The entire address was replete with interesting information and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

## Public Ownership in Theory and Practice

### Government Ownership of Telephone and Telegraph Lines

Former Representative Lewis of Maryland introduced a bill in the last Congress the purpose of which was to try out an experiment of government ownership of telephone and telegraph lines by taking over the property of the telephone company in the District of Columbia.

In support of this measure, Mr. Lewis selected New Zealand in particular for demonstration of his ideas, contending that public utility service, wages, living costs and general educational advancement in that country resemble like conditions in the United States.

Replying to Mr. Lewis' argument, Frank H. Bethell, president of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company and vice-president of the New York Telephone Company, in a hearing before the committee on the District of Columbia, in the House of Representatives, said:

#### Mr. Bethell Answers Mr. Lewis

"Mr. Lewis in his testimony said: 'Let us take New Zealand, for example. I take New Zealand,' said Mr. Lewis, 'because New Zealand resembles the United States as much as one state in this country resembles another in wage level and conditions, in general spirit and purpose.' In the summer of 1914 the finance minister of New Zealand reported to the house of commons that the net debt of New Zealand with a population of slightly over 1,000,000, stands at \$450,000,000, making a per capita debt of \$450. The resulting average taxation per head of the population is \$26.40. I will say in passing that if the United States had proportionately the same debt as New Zealand, its net debt would be about \$45,000,000,000, instead of something like \$900,000,000. If it be answered that this net debt was incurred in the acquisition of productive undertakings, it should be stated that it is a serious question whether the undertakings acquired by New Zealand are productive. If so, why this tremendous tax rate? (Note: Testimony given later in the hearing showed that the per capita net indebtedness of New Zealand is \$484).

"In 1909, James Edward Le Rossignol, professor of economics of the University of Denver, and Edward Downis Stewart, barrister-at-law, Dunedin, New Zealand, analyzed the railway finance of New Zealand and prepared a table which shows that railroad rates in New Zealand are far in excess of railroad rates in the United States.

"A comparison of the rates in New Zealand and the United States, prepared by Slason Thompson, director of the bureau of railway news and statistics, contains the following items:

"In New Zealand the rates per 100 pounds of sugar per 100 miles, 44 cents; in the United States, 12 cents. For 400 miles in New Zealand, 80 cents; in the United States, 27 cents. For grain and flour, per 100 miles in New Zealand it is 11 cents; in the United States, 6 cents. For 400 miles in New Zealand it is 24 cents; in the United States, 14½ cents. For coal in New Zealand per 100 miles, it is 14 cents; in the United States, 4 cents. For 400 miles in New Zealand it is 30 cents; in the United States, 10½ cents."

"In discussing the economies of the situation, before taking up utilization, I will direct attention to the fact that, according to figures appearing in published documents, it appears that the official net deficit (not including interest) was, in 1908, on telephone and telegraph traffic, \$213,160. In 1912 (and the figures for this year were given out by W. R. Morris, secretary, general postoffice, Wellington, New Zealand, in a letter dated April 8, 1913), \$313,212. In 1915 the deficit amounted to \$519,661. For the eight years from 1908 to 1915, inclusive, the deficit was \$2,642,373; and that is not reckoning interest on the investment.

"Now, as to the utilization, which is something we, who have watched the development of the telephone here, are very much interested in, we have offered from a report made in September, 1915, by the New Zealand Postal Telegraph Guide, the following as to the telephone:

"'Per cent of total exchanges, with continuous service, 8.3.'

"'Per cent with from 13 to 18 hours, but not open earlier than 6 a. m., or later than midnight, 17.'

"'Per cent with service from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m., 15.4.'

"'Per cent with day service, usually 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., and with from one-half to two hours evening service, 8.7.'

"'Per cent with service from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. only, 50.6.'

"'More than one-half of the telephone exchanges in New Zealand are open from 6 o'clock a. m. to midnight only, and that is week days.'

"'The Guide goes on to report that on Sundays 82.2 per cent., and on holidays 81.8 per cent of the exchanges are not open at all, and the hours of business of such exchanges as are open are generally shorter than on week days. Thus it appears to me that New Zealand is as different from the United States as one civilized nation can be from another, and there is other evidence that might be produced to substantiate the statement.

"What I am going to state now might seem surprising, but it is a fact, and I have the figures to prove it. I am going to direct attention to the fact that if the tele-

phone rates of Great Britain prevailed in the United States this country's telephone bill, with the development which we have brought about would be \$86,000,000 per annum greater than it is. I arrive at this by taking the total number of stations which we have here and multiplying that by the average rate which is collected for service by the telephone administration in Great Britain. Applying the same method I find that Australia's rates, if applied here, would produce \$53,000,000 additional revenue, while the French rates would bring to the telephone companies an increase of some \$41,000,000 every year. Even the much discussed New Zealand would, if the same rule could be applied, produce additional revenues in amount \$5,500,000."

### Saginaw's Attitude on Municipal Telephones

The following editorial, taken from the *Saginaw Courier-Herald* of March 10th, clearly indicates the attitude of Saginaw citizens in regard to municipal telephone plants:

#### MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE?

And now it is to be municipal telephone plants, a bill authorizing these having been introduced into the legislature. All that is needed is for the city to take over the telephone systems, elect some skilful politicians, entirely untrained in the difficult and complex business of running a telephone company, as commissioner of telephones, let him appoint his political friends, also untrained in the telephone business, to all the jobs the system can be made to support and we shall have a sort of telephone Utopia.

We concede—in fact we have frequently pointed it out—that two telephone systems are a nuisance. We don't want them. If there is any business in which a monopoly is justified it is the telephone business. The city and the state would be better off if there were a single company, closely regulated. This business of supporting two or more entirely separate systems is costly and inconvenient. But it does not follow that we should have a municipal monopoly. Government ownership is unfortunately inefficient. Government business as a whole, national, state and municipal, lacks much of attaining our industrial standard of efficiency. And one business that will not stand for very much inefficiency, that requires skilful administration, that is delicately adjusted and can easily be put out of kilter by a little clumsiness is that of telephones. We need experts there. We want telephone heads and telephone employees appointed and holding their positions because they are fitted for the work given them, not because they have political influence.

## Of Interest to Our Girls

Conducted by Mrs. F. E. Dewhurst

### Our Girls As Patriots



Flags are flying everywhere and on our page today we give it central place in the poet's description of the red, white and blue.

Our girls will not be outdone in patriotism—they stand for continuous service for the country they love. They believe that "good telephone service to our country is 'Service First.'" The army of telephone operators does not have to be drafted for the time of need. It is always ready for the word of command and all over the United States a great army of loyal girls, alert and attentive, calmly give the service the country needs.

In a paper on "A Patriotic Service" by Mr. Whit-cher, superintendent of traffic in Boston, he says, "Our watchword must be 'Alertness,' for we can appreciate that there is no knowing when the glowing of a lamp signal on the switchboard may be the first and most important link in a chain of events that will spell success or failure for hundreds of our fellow beings."

Have you ever thought of your work as similar to the soldier? In the paper quoted above, Mr. Whit-cher calls attention to some of the rules in the military manual. Are not these good rules for our girls at the switchboard?

"Loyalty means that you are for your organization and officers, not against them; that you always extend your most earnest and hearty support to those in authority. No soldier is a loyal soldier who is a knocker, or a grumbler, or a shirker. Just one man of this class in a company breeds discontent and dissatisfaction among many others. You should, therefore, not only guard against doing such things yourself but should discourage such action among any of your comrades.

"All persons in the military service are required to obey strictly and to execute promptly the lawful orders of their superiors.

"Obedience must be prompt and unquestioning.

"But even with explicit obedience you may fail to measure up to that high standard of duty which is at once the pride and

glory of every true soldier. Not until you carry out the desires and wishes of your superiors in a hearty, willing and cheerful manner are you meeting all the requirements of your profession."

In closing Mr. Whit-cher says:

"The spirit to serve—to serve humanity—blazes as bright in the breasts of the patriotic young women of the telephone service as it ever has in the hearts of men who have followed great leaders on the battlefields of victory, and it requires only the occasion to call it forth.

"I say to you, and I am mighty proud to be able to say it, that the telephone service stands alone pre-eminent in its exhibition of the spirit that has made armies invincible.

"By our actions we of the telephone army of New England will show to our officers and to our country that we will

When Freedom, from her mountain height,  
Unfurled her standard to the air,  
She tore the azure robe of Night  
And set the stars of glory there.  
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes  
The milky baldrick of the skies,  
And striped its pure, celestial white  
With streakings of the morning light.  
Then, from his mansion in the sun,  
She called her eagle bearer down,  
And gave into his mighty hand  
The symbol of her chosen land!

—Joseph Rodman Drake.

meet with true womanliness and true manliness every duty and responsibility that falls to our share in upholding the honor and credit of the institution whose privilege and duty it is to furnish a patriotic service to the American people in fair weather or foul, in times of peace or in times of war."

And the girls of the Middle West are a part of that same army. It is not drafted for this one emergency—it is an army already enlisted and drilled to serve. These faithful soldiers sit quietly awaiting the flashing signals of opportunity and their voices call back over the line cheery response, their fingers nimbly execute the order which may mean victory and which may help to bring the peace we all are longing for.

It is the great opportunity for the girl patriots, the telephone army of girls. Faithful to their daily duty, they are ready now to serve their country in these days of storm and stress. Every moment all

day, all night, they are there, unseen—the guard that never fails.

### Try Smiling

When the weather suits you not,

Try smiling.

When your coffee isn't hot,

Try smiling.

When your neighbors don't do right,

Or your relatives all fight

Sure 'tis hard, but then you might

Try smiling.

Doesn't change the things, of course,

Just smiling,

But it cannot make them worse,

Just smiling,

And it seems to help your case,

Brightens up a gloomy place,

Then it sort o' rests your face—

Just smiling. —Selected.

The more we do the more we can do. He who does nothing, becomes incapable of doing anything.

To travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive, and true success is to labor.

—Edna Cherry.

### "Holiday House"—A Good Place for Telephone Girls to Spend a Vacation

The pictures on Page 23 give a fair idea of life at "Holiday House," a girls' vacation camp at Green Lake, Wis. The camp is located in a beautiful spot on the shore of the lake. A

grove of trees provides plenty of shade at all times. The facilities for swimming and boating are excellent. The house is a splendid place for telephone girls' vacations.

The life is very informal. The girls dress very simply, and spend their time largely in outdoor sports and games, in reading or merely in the enjoyment of a good rest.

The camp is owned by the combined branches of the Girls' Friendly Society of Milwaukee and is open to girls of all religious denominations from June 25th to September 3d.

Girls employed by the Wisconsin Telephone Company in any part of the state who are interested in the vacation camp and desire further information about it should communicate with Miss Elizabeth Rosche, social secretary of the Wisconsin Telephone Company, 426 Broadway, Milwaukee, Wis.





(1) "HOLIDAY HOUSE" FOR GIRLS, GREEN LAKE, WIS. (2) A CORNER OF THE FRONT PORCH. (3) BOAT LANDING—BOATING AND SWIMMING THE CHIEF AMUSEMENTS. (4) CORNER OF THE SLEEPING PORCH.

### Eleanor Camp on Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

The accompanying picture, taken at Eleanor Camp at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, suggest the advantages of this beautiful spot as an ideal place to spend a vacation. The camp occupies a tract of more than ten acres, with a lake frontage of 330 feet and a depth of 1,320 feet.

These grounds are within ten minutes walk of the Y. M. C. A. Camp, where many entertainments are held, and where guests of the camp may attend Sunday services.

The sleeping tents are on wooded slopes overlooking the lake. A large dining hall with a wide veranda provide for indoor recreations, while an attractive tent-house artistically furnished, offers books, writing tables, and easy chairs for a quiet afternoon.

The Camp privileges

are not confined to girls in residence in Eleanor Clubs, but are open to any self-supporting young woman of good character.

For further information in regard to the Eleanor Camp, write to the Eleanor Association, 16 North Wabash avenue, Chicago.

In future issues of the NEWS, additional

suggestions will be offered concerning vacation camps.

We shall be glad to get information about summer resorts which have been tested, so that through these pages, we may make them known to others who are looking for good places.

### A Family Secret

"Little boy," said the big electrician as he unpacked his tool kit, "your mother sent for me to fix her switch; do you suppose you can tell me where to find it?"

The little boy's eyes grew round.

"Sh!" he whispered cautiously. "Mamma doesn't want everybody to know she wears a switch, but I guess you'll find it either on the bureau or on her head."



RECREATION HALL, ELEANOR CLUB CAMP, AT LAKE GENEVA, WIS.

## DAINTY DESIGNS FOR SUMMER FROCKS

*Gray and Biege Colorings in Demand for Daytime Wear—Ways to Braid, Stitch and Embroider a Gown*



*An attractive collection of frocks for the summer wardrobe. First, there is illustrated a blue foulard combined with satin-striped taffeta and trimmed with bead embroidery. Next is a cotton voile trimmed with printed silk in border effect. Floral printed crepe and chiffon cloth are used in the construction of the third frock, while the fourth is in white union linen, made in Russian blouse design, trimmed with braid.*

### By Maude Hall

Following the example established by the First Lady of the Land, most of the women of the country are pledging themselves to buy inexpensive clothing as one of the means of reducing their scale of living to the simplest possible form. Not only will they purchase inexpensive materials, but many are taking up sewing in order to save

the heavy expense of dressmaker's bills.

The frocks designed for summer wear

### Patterns for Bell News Designs

The designs shown on this page are supplied by The Pictorial Review, New York. Patterns may be secured from any Pictorial Review agency.

show how well the arbiters of fashion are putting into concrete expression the contemplated reforms in dress.

As the season advances, it is probable that gay colors will give away to more quiet tones; not necessarily dark shades, but the neutral tints such as biege, clay, putty, sand and grege, which seems to mean a little of all of these tones. Dark blue

will be modish as long as fashion clings tenaciously to serge in its charming variety. Gradually American women are taking up the silk alpaca which the French dress-makers are using with so much success for tailleurs, but the smartest materials for summer are voile, which is to some degree displacing the mousselines and Georgettes, mercerized cottons, sports silks and a very good looking loose woven, smooth etamine, for which we are also indebted to the French.

With the unusual emphasis on flat decorative trimming in the way of braiding, stitching, embroidery and beads, no frock would seem to be complete unless it shows some touch of one of these forms of trimming. Involved or complex designs are not necessary for the best effects; indeed, simple, irregular scroll work, zigzag lines and designs drawn over circles made with coins are all that the amateur needs to get the best results.

Linen is used for some lovely summer frocks. One particularly striking model is embroidered, having the designs worked out on oyster white in Peruvian colors, red, black, dull yellow and green, in cotton stitching. The stitches are set close enough together to bring out the design. This is a real slip-on dress, a black lacing serving to make the neck hole large enough for the head.

Another stockinet dress in a champagne color is braided, according to the latest design, in dark blue soutache. The braiding is a simple up-and-down design, like the exercises given to children who are learning to write. Occasionally it is crossed by a pointed design, also of soutache. A blue suede belt slips through the box plaits into which the fullness of the dress is laid at the waist. Blue suede also forms the collar.

Quite a variety of silk belts are being shown. One of the most novel and attractive is embroidered with beads of Balkan colors, with bead fringe ends. This belt is about two inches wide and nearly two yards long, goes around the waist twice and ties in front. Some very smart belts are made of two strips of patent leather held in place by slides of silver.

Narrow, solidly beaded girdles are among the attractive things and are often very beautiful in color and workmanship. Some of these are intended to be drawn loosely around the popular straight frock or blouse, tied once and left with falling ends, each end weighted by a bead, ball or tassel. Other narrow-beaded belts merely encircle the waist and fasten at one side of the front. Slender beaded tassels swing from each side of the front.

### Home Dressmaker's Corner

Courtesy Pictorial Review

Clever arrangement of the trimming will give the smart over-dress effect to this straight-line one-piece frock. It is devel-



oped in dark blue men's wear serge, trimmed with braid. The collar and cuffs are of sand color tub satin. In medium size the design requires five yards, fifty-four-inch material, with one yard of thirty-six-inch satin for trimming.

This model should make a strong appeal to the girl who has not had wide experience in sewing, on account of the few seams required in its construction. A careful study of both the cutting and construction guides is necessary, however. To properly cut the dress, the material should be laid on the sewing table, or in the absence of a sewing table, on the floor. A smooth, flat surface is necessary to good cutting. A sheet or newspaper may be spread on the floor to protect the material. Now, directly on the lengthwise fold lay

the front of the dress, then follow with the back, the flounce sections, collar and belt as illustrated in the guide. Pin carefully into place, then refer to the guide again for the correct placing of the remaining pieces of the pattern. The tiny strip along the selvage, from which the arrow points, is the piecing for the side of the front gore. Then comes the facing. The sleeve and stay are laid on the serge next, the large "O" perforations in each of these pieces resting on a lengthwise thread of the goods.

Now, with a pair of sharp scissors, cut out the various sections, following the pattern carefully. On the edges of the shoulder, under-arm, sleeve, cuff and side seam of flounce, one inch is allowed for letting out the seams if necessary, and these edges are marked by the shaded portion of the construction guide.

The preliminary step in the construction of the dress is to close the under-arm and shoulder seams as notched. If desired closed on the left shoulder and under the left arm, leave the shoulder seam free and the left under-arm seam above large "O" perforation in back. Close right shoulder seam, then sew stay to the left shoulder and under-arm edges of back as notched.

If desired closed in front, slash through the fold at center-front of front and facing from upper edge, to large "O" perforations. Sew slashed edge of facing to front, notches even. Make seams  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch wide at upper edge of sash and graduate seam into nothing at lower edge.

Next, sew the collar to the neck edge, notches and center-backs even. Leave collar free forward of left shoulder seam and finish for closing.

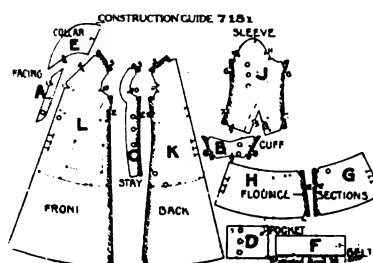
The small "o" perforation in the pocket indicates the upper front edge. Adjust to position on front, with side and lower edges along indicating small "o" perforations.

Now, adjust the belt to position, braiding and facing first. The upper edge of the belt should be at small "o" perforation near center-back. Close on left side. The belt should lap about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches when closed.

Next, take the sleeve and turn the slashed edge under on slot perforations, and lap to small "o" perforations, notches even. Stitch to position and trim with buttons. Close remaining seam as notched. If desired, the buttons may be omitted and a cuff added. Close seam of cuff as notched, to small "o" perforation; sew to sleeve as notched, small "o" perforation in cuff at seam of sleeve. Sew sleeve in arm-hole as notched, small "o" perforation at shoulder seam, easing in any fullness.

Now, join the front and back sections of the flounce as notched; adjust to position on dress, stitching upper edge of flounce along crossline of small "o" perforations, matching single large "O" and double small "o" perforations.

The flounce may be omitted without detracting from the effectiveness of the costume.





# Safety First and Accident Prevention

Member National Safety Council  
Member American Museum of Safety



SAFETY AND COMMON SENSE—  
SUCCESS IN LIFE THE RECOMPENSE

"A MISS IS AS GOOD AS A MILE," BUT RE-  
MEMBER YOU ARE NOT ALWAYS MISSED

TOMORROW CHEATS US ALL—START  
TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS TODAY

## Some Common Accidents Reported During March

When reading these over, put yourself in the place of the injured person and consider what you would have done to have prevented the accident.

It is accidents such as these, all of which have as the underlying cause thoughtlessness on the part of the injured person, that provide the bulk of the accidents reported by telephone employees each month.

Remember, too, that the big, serious accidents which result in death, or the loss of an eye, an arm, or a leg, and very severe pain, that cause your loved ones anxiety, discomfort, and in some cases, deprivation, result in the majority of cases from the same underlying cause—thoughtlessness.

Your little accidents, with the minor injuries, or no injuries at all resulting, are just as much a measure of your ability as a workman, as is the character of the work you do.

An installer was working in a dark basement and accidentally stepped on a nail protruding from a board.

A janitor was cleaning a store room which was in semi-darkness, when he stepped on a nail protruding from a board.

A cable splicer was working in a vault, and had a metal pot suspended from under an opening. In raising his head, it came in contact with the metal pot, tipped it, allowing the hot metal to run over his right shoulder and down his back.

An installer was standing on a step ladder, pulling wire through a wall, when the ladder collapsed and he fell backward.

A cable helper was replacing a manhole cover on a frame, assisted by another helper. The assistant released his hold on the cover without telling the cable helper, and the cover fell on his right hand, severely bruising two fingers.

An installer was standing on a fourteen-foot ladder, tacking a ground wire to the wall, when the ladder slipped from under him and he fell to the floor.

A painter was washing walls in an exchange, and struck his hand against a nail

sticking out of the wall.

A groundman was placing red lights on a truck, when the vault bar which was leaning against a coil of wire in the bottom of the truck, was jarred by the vibration of the engine, so that it fell out of the truck on the large toe of his right foot, severely bruising it.

A clerk, while passing through swinging doors, caught her hand between the doors, severely bruising it.

A cableman at Milwaukee was working in a manhole, when a box that was at the top of the manhole, near the edge, was blown into the manhole by the wind, striking him on the head, inflicting a lacerated wound.

A repairman at Port Washington, Wisconsin, was descending a pole, when he stopped for the purpose of placing his test set on his back, and while so doing lost his balance, causing him to fall about thirty-five feet to the ground.

A lineman at Madison was engaged in digging an anchor hole, when the nine-foot steel bar that he was using became caught in his safety belt, causing the bar to glance up from the ground and strike the great toe of his left foot, inflicting a lacerated wound.

## ONE ELECTRICIAN KILLED ANOTHER INJURED BECAUSE—

The picture reproduced below is from a recent bulletin of the National Safety Council, Chicago, Ill. It shows a scene where two workmen found an old forgotten plank stretching across the pilasters between two ladders, and sought to use it as a work platform. The plank broke and dropped them—one to the floor and the other onto the blower pipe.

How many telephone men meet the conditions shown in this bulletin? We may not meet exactly the same condition, but can we put two and two together? Be sure you are safe. Don't think, "Oh, well, that plank is strong enough to hold me," or, "That location is safe enough." Know that you are safe.



## Accident Prevention Records

An exceptional record is being made by the employees of the Woodstock district in the Accident Prevention Contest. A clean record has been shown for the last eight months, and in only two instances during ten months' time have accidents occurred in which the employee injured was obliged to discontinue work.

One of the methods employed in this district to avoid accidents is a careful and systematic inspection of all tools. In addition to this, all foremen and men in charge of exchanges see that no unnecessary risks are taken by the employees under their supervision.



While the district has made the best record for consecutive months without accidents, it has not as yet been awarded the trophy on account of its limited number of employees.

The Wheaton district also has a very good record and is only one month behind the Woodstock district in consecutive months showing no personal injury cases. This report includes the month of March.

### The Trophy

The accident prevention trophies awarded each month in each of the three divisions of the Chicago plant department will be proudly displayed during May by Messrs. Conway, district manager at Aurora; Bremer, North division construction foreman, and Cerny, Canal exchange wire chief. They are in charge of the districts in first place in the suburban plant, construction and maintenance divisions, respectively.

The standing of the various districts for the period ending March 31st is as follows:

Suburban Plant		District	
Place			
1	Aurora	4	Wabash
2	Elgin	5	Central
3	Wheaton	6	Rogers Park
4	Woodstock	7	Austin
5	Evanston	8	Monroe
6	Waukegan	9	Douglas
7	Hammond	10	Hyde Park
8	Oak Park	11	Lake View
		12	Edgewater
		13	Wentworth
		14	Oakland
		15	Lincoln
		16	Superior
		17	Stewart
		18	Humboldt
		19	Pullman
		20	West
		21	Kedzie

9	Joliet
10	Harvey
11	Special Estimate
12	La Grange

### Construction

1	North Construction
2	Building Cabling
3	Shops
4	Supplies
5	Garage
6	South Construction
7	Cable Repair
8	Central Construction

### Maintenance

1	Canal
2	Beverly
3	Main

22	South Chicago
23	Calumet
24	Yards
25	Irving
26	Prospect
27	Lawndale
28	Belmont

Some splendid records in accident prevention work are being made. For instance, this is the fourth consecutive month in which Canal exchange is in first place in the maintenance division, this is the second consecutive month in which North construction is in first place in the construction division, and this is the second time that Aurora has been awarded the trophy in the suburban plant division.

## BURNLEY

### SOLDERING PASTE

Is a perfect Flux. Burnley Paste cannot spill out or drip away like liquid.



It stays where you put it and follows closely the hot iron.

Send for free sample.

The Burnley Battery and Mfg. Co., North East, Pa.  
WESTERN ELECTRIC COMPANY  
Distributors

## WABASH 640

will put you in touch with personal and experienced insurance service for getting most reasonable rates and broadest protection for your property, household goods, automobile, baggage and jewelry against fire and theft.

Get our advice—our firm is manager of the insurance department of the A. T. & T. Co.

## MARSH & McLENNAN

INSURANCE IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

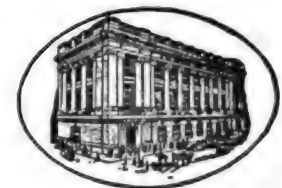
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

CHICAGO

## Discipline and Reward

**S**AVING money is discipline. But more than that, it is one of the greatest rewards of discipline. Few things which require as little sacrifice bring such definite gain.

If you have never tried it, see for yourself. Open a savings account in this bank. 3% interest paid on savings deposits.



## THE NORTHERN TRUST CO-BANK

N. W. COR. LA SALLE & MONROE STS.

Capital \$2,000,000

Surplus \$1,500,000

In the suburban plant division, Woodstock has not had a single accident causing disability for eight months, and Wheaton has not had one for seven months. In the maintenance division, Canal and Beverly exchanges have not had accidents causing disability for seventeen months. That Beverly and Woodstock have not been in first place in their respective divisions is only due to the fact that they have a lesser number of employés on their pay roll than the districts which have preceded them in monthly statements.

May there be no "slackers" in accident prevention work.

### Fatal Flashes

Thin ice,  
Scorned advice,  
Paradise.

—Luke McLuke.

Ignored bells,  
Flagmen's yells,  
Immortelles.

—Waco News.

Silly kid,  
Car skid,  
Glass lid.

—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Speed increases,  
Breath ceases,  
Rest in pieces.

—B. E. F.

Careful be,  
Watch your step,  
Longevity,  
Full of pep.

—Safety Bulletin of Bureau of Safety.

### Automobile Owners, Attention!

Those of our readers who are fortunate enough to own automobiles will be interested in the following article which appeared in the *Scientific American* of February 24th. It is reprinted here in the hope that it will save the cars of our auto owners from an untimely disintegration.

"Static charges of electricity of considerable magnitude may be produced when gasoline is filtered through chamois skin and other insulating filtering mediums. Greater charges result when the air is dry and cold than when it is warm and damp. Recent experiments at the Bureau of Standards show that in cold, dry air, it is extremely difficult to avoid the production of such charges, if the gasoline is filtered through chamois skin, but that the use of fine wire gauze in place of the latter practically eliminates the danger. In addition to the electric charge produced by filtering, charges may be produced by the friction of clothing against the cushions of automobile seats, by gloves against other objects, etc. The danger due to charges produced in either of these ways may be avoided by touching the funnel against the metal tank at some distance from the opening before inserting the funnel, and then inserting it into the opening in the tank in such a way that it remains in metallic contact with the tank throughout the filtering process. These two precautions, says the Bureau of Standards, prevent the accumulation of charges of opposite sign on the funnel and the tank, respectively, and eliminate the

possibility of the passage of an electric spark between them."

### Civic Forum Honors Dr. Bell

The latest distinguished honor conferred upon Dr. Alexander Graham Bell was the award of the Civic Forum Medal of Honor, which he received as a national testimonial at Carnegie Hall, Wednesday evening, March 21st. The occasion was of great interest, and not only to telephone employés but to the public.

The chairman, Dr. John H. Finley, president of the University of the State of New York, opened the meeting with a brilliant address; then Edwin Markham, the noted poet, read a poem which he had composed for the occasion; these were followed by brief addresses by Thomas A. Watson, the associate of Dr. Bell, the maker of the first telephone instrument, and the receiver of the first telephone message; Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, and formerly president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; John J. Carty, chief engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company; Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary, discoverer of the North Pole; Dr. Harris Taylor, secretary to the American Society for the Education of the Deaf, and Union N. Bethell, president of the New York Telephone Company and senior vice-president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. Dr. Bell received the medal and accepted it in a very graceful and appropriate speech.



DR. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL, INVENTOR OF THE TELEPHONE, RECEIVING FROM DR. JOHN H. FINLEY, STATE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, ON BEHALF OF THE CIVIC FORUM, THE CIVIC FORUM MEDAL OF HONOR FOR DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE.

In the group, left to right, are: John J. Carty, Chief Engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company; Union N. Bethell, President of the New York Telephone Company; Dr. Finley, Dr. Bell, and Thomas A. Watson, associate of Dr. Bell, maker of the first Bell telephone instruments, which can be seen on the table. Photograph is by International Film Service.

# MACK TRUCKS

This MACK worm drive truck is one of a number of MACK Trucks in the Chicago Telephone Company service.

MACK truck construction embodies the happy combination of simplicity and ruggedness, with all motor parts accessible and easily removable, with large bearings and especially heat treated steel, insuring long operation with a minimum of overhaul costs.

*Write for Specifications*

Complete Line of  
MACK TRUCKS  
1 to 7½ Tons

**International Motor Co.**  
**NEW YORK**



A HAND  
PORTABLE  
WHICH IS SHOCK-PROOF

It is impossible to have short circuits, to blow fuses, or injure men or apparatus with a

**BENJAMIN FIBRE HAND PORTABLE**

Installed as an indispensable part of telephone equipment. All electrical dealers have them.

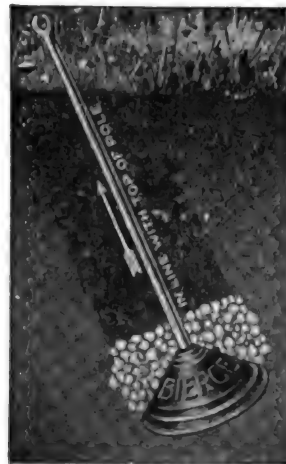
**BENJAMIN ELECTRIC MFG. CO.**

New York

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San Francisco

120-28 S. Sangamon St.



Pat. Aug. 19, 1913

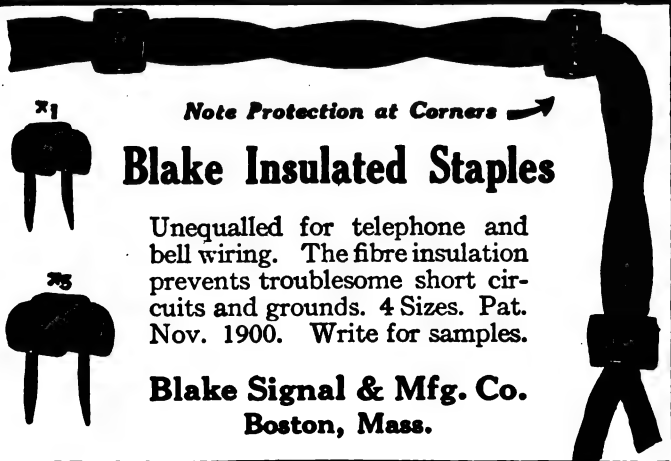
If you are not using  
**BIERCE ANCHORS**  
we claim that you  
are not getting maxi-  
mum efficiency from  
the money expended  
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May we have the  
opportunity of con-  
vincing you?

Best by test.  
Increased efficiency of guying.  
Easily installed.  
Results uniformly gratifying.  
Cost very low.  
Exceptional holding power.

MANUFACTURED BY

**The Specialty Device Company**  
Cincinnati, Ohio



Note Protection at Corners →

**Blake Insulated Staples**

Unequalled for telephone and bell wiring. The fibre insulation prevents troublesome short circuits and grounds. 4 Sizes. Pat. Nov. 1900. Write for samples.

**Blake Signal & Mfg. Co.**  
Boston, Mass.

## Public Utilities Commission Rulings

### Physical Connection Minnesota Commission.

On February 5, 1917, the Minnesota Commission entered the following order: "That the Northwestern Telephone Exchange Company be required to connect its local exchange at Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota, with the toll lines of the Tri-State Telephone & Telegraph Company for the furnishing of toll line service to the subscribers and patrons of said companies; that the expense of making such physical connection or connections and the maintenance thereof be apportioned equally between the said companies and that the Tri-State company pay a reasonable rental to the Northwestern company for the use of its conduits; that the Tri-State pay to the Northwestern company a service charge of five cents for each in and out message, the said charge to be absorbed from the rate, and that an additional charge of ten cents be added to each toll line message moving over the toll lines of the Tri-State company to or from subscribers' stations of the Northwestern Telephone Exchange Company at Owatonna, said charges to be paid to the Northwestern company and not to be absorbed from the rate, this order to become effective thirty days from the date hereof."

In its opinion preceding the order it said, "Under this statute the commission must pass upon three questions: Public convenience, reasonable compensation and irreparable injury to one or both telephone properties. Each question will be discussed in its natural order. In no case is the commission authorized to order the physical connection and joint use unless public convenience requires it."

The Minnesota Commission in giving its opinion in the above case referred to other similar cases in various states and stated that "A reference to some of the cases will be helpful."

Amongst others it quoted the language of the Illinois Commission in the hearing of the Intertownship Telephone Company vs. DeKalb County Telephone Company, wherein it said, "Telephone and telegraph companies are common carriers of intelligence and must give the same service to all who apply therefor, but this does not mean that a telephone company is bound to permit another telephone company to make a physical connection with its lines for the purpose of using such lines as its own subscribers use them. For a telephone company to transmit to any point on its lines, without discrimination, the message of all parties offering them and willing to pay the same rate for the same service, is one thing. To admit outside companies or their patrons to the same use of the lines that its own patrons are entitled to, is a widely different thing."

"An opposite conclusion would result in

the practical confiscation of the larger plants, since the motive would be insistent in small companies organized for the purpose, or depleted or run down companies to demand such connection. Moreover, it would enable one company to take the property of another company for public use without compensation and deprive the latter company of its property without due process of law. It is a well established principle that a telephone company cannot be compelled to become a party to the destruction of its own property, through the establishment of a switching service for another company operating in the same territory.

### Public Utility May Demand a Deposit as Prerequisite to Service

The Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey.

Howard E. Case complained to the Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey that the Boonton Electric Company required him to deposit \$5 in order to secure electric service at his home while others of no greater responsibility and credit were not required to make such a deposit.

The board held that it was not unreasonable to require the deposit from Mr. Case since it does not constitute undue or unjust discrimination to require a deposit from new customers whose credit had not been established and to exempt from such requirement earlier customers who have been prompt and regular in the payment of their bills for service.

### Extension of Service

The Wisconsin Commission.

In the case of the Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company, it was held that extensions of service by a public utility cannot be required indefinitely, as it would be unfair to load upon present consumers the cost of making and maintaining extensions which would serve but a few customers.

### Discontinuance of Subscriber's Service Because of Habitual Abuse of Operators

New York Public Service Commission.

The commission announced its decision in the case of Morse M. Frankel, secretary of the Mediator Publishing Company of New York City, who had his telephone taken out. It refused to entertain Mr. Frankel's complaint and authorized the company to discontinue service to him.

The commission held that, no matter how angry a subscriber may become at a telephone operator, he is not permitted to call her a "bum," nor express a wish that she "break a leg." At the hearing there were a number of witnesses from the company who said that Mr. Frankel had been accustomed to make use of the quoted ex-

pressions and others when "Central" did not meet his standards of efficiency.

### Public Not Concerned with Price at Which Stock Is Issued

Public Utilities Commission of Illinois.

The attorney-general of Illinois was asked by the Public Utilities Commission to advise it as to whether or not it would be justified in approving the application of the Commonwealth Edison Company for authority to issue the certain capital stock at par to its stockholders, in view of the fact that the market price of said company's outstanding stock was much in excess of par.

The attorney-general advised the commission to approve the application, stating, among other things, that since the commission has supervision of the application of the funds received from the proposed sale, neither the public, the investor nor the stockholder has any further concern in the premises. That the consuming and investing public have the right to know that every dollar of stock represents a dollar of investment but there their interest ceases. The consumer is not affected by the sale since his rates and service cannot be disturbed thereby, the rates being predicated on the value of the actual investment in the property and not upon the par of outstanding securities, much less upon their sale price. The public service cannot be adversely affected by the price of the stock since service depends more upon the use of the funds secured by the utility than upon the particular manner in which such funds are acquired. Indeed, it is possible that service may be impeded by failure to approve the proposed issue, since the utility may thereby be thwarted in its attempt to procure additional capital. The fact that a larger issue is necessary to realize a given sum, when stock is sold at par, should create no hesitancy in the minds of the commissioners, since the commission is not concerned with the dividends to be earned, being interested only in the question of rates as determined by actual investment.

### American Telephone and Telegraph Company a Model

Public Service Commission of Indiana.

In its second annual report, issued in December, 1916, the Public Service Commission of Indiana, in speaking of the relative efficiency in management and operation of the various telephone companies in that state, says that the American Telephone & Telegraph Company represents the highest attainment in efficiency and economy of operation of any telephone company, especially when the vast extent of territory over which it operates and the number of its employes and the different conditions under which it operates are considered.



## The New "Thompson-Levering" Test Set



TYPE CI-2011. Price \$60.00

### Special Features

1. Impossible to make wrong setting for any test.
2. Impossible to make an error in reading results.
3. Impossible to burn out rheostat to make it useless.
4. Shunt protection for the removable galvanometer.
5. Battery renewal obtainable in any supply house.
6. The instrument is of "Thompson-Levering" manufacture.

A set the telephone world has greatly needed and desired for years, but never available until now. Its low price is the result of special design, quantity production and approved manufacturing methods.

Made, sold and guaranteed by the Thompson-Levering Company who are the producers of the highest grade testing instruments which are standard with all of the largest public service corporations in the world.

THOMPSON-LEVERING CO.,

Philadelphia, Pa.



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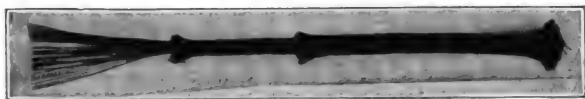
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AND PRICES ARE ADVANCING  
**ORDER NOW**

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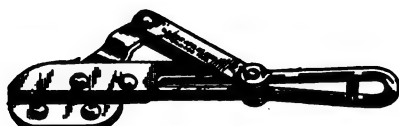


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**BUFFALO MACHINE MFG. CO.**  
1360 West Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y.

Distributed by  
**Western Electric Company**  
OFFICES IN ALL PRINCIPAL CITIES

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*Builders' Locks*  
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*Cabinet Locks*  
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Whenever you buy any kind of a lock or piece of hardware, for any purpose or use, look for the name "Yale" on it.

Yale Products are world-standard—and every Yale Product has the name on it, as a visible guarantee that you are getting the utmost in security-giving and material quality.

Yale Products for Sale by Hardware Dealers  
**The Yale & Towne Mfg. Co.**  
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*"We Make 'Em"*

For

**SWITCHBOARDS**

and

**TELEPHONES**

**Runzel-Lenz Electric Manufacturing Company**

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No. A1 Clamp

## BLACKBURN GROUND CLAMPS

Approved by Underwriters.

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**BELL TELEPHONE COMPANIES**

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3450 Perkins Avenue CLEVELAND, OHIO

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**Stump**  
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Largest Stocks  
Finest Quality  
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Yards from Maine  
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you want the best.

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All Styles for Every Class of Work. Our High Grades Fully Warranted

**Telegraph Shovels and Spoons a Distinctive Specialty**

WRITE FOR PRICES  
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Trade  
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**CUTTERS**



**10-Inch** Clipper Cut Jaws, for 3-16-in. annealed bolts in the thread, or 3-16-in. soft rivets.  
Center Cut Jaws, for 3-16-in. soft rods.

**14-Inch** Clipper Cut Jaws, for 1-4-in. annealed bolts in the thread, or 1-4-in. soft rivets.  
Center Cut Jaws, for 1-4-in. soft rods.

Insulated Handles if desired.

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"Easy," "New Easy" and Allen Randall Bolt Clippers

**NATIONAL**

**Double Tube Copper Connectors**

are accurately made. They give less trouble and longer service than other types.



National Signifies Quality in Connectors.

**National Telephone Supply Company**  
3002 Superior Avenue CLEVELAND, OHIO

**1916-The Best Year Since We  
Started in Business in 1876**



Patented  
**B KEROSENE**

During 1916 the users throughout the country have bought more "ALWAYS RELIABLE" furnaces and torches than ever before. If you don't know the reason, ask some users and they will explain.

When you buy the "ALWAYS RELIABLE," you receive furnaces and torches with patented features, which make them the most practical.

Try Some and  
Convince Yourself  
Catalog Free on  
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**OTTO BERNZ**  
Newark, N. J.

**With Her Beside You**

Away you go! Over the neat boulevards, through the parks and out to the brown roads of the countryside on your

**Harley-Davidson**

With her beside you, you will revel in the joy that comes only to the motorcyclist. Wonderful sport — splendid recreation.

Come in and let us show you the "Master Motorcycle." Terms to suit.

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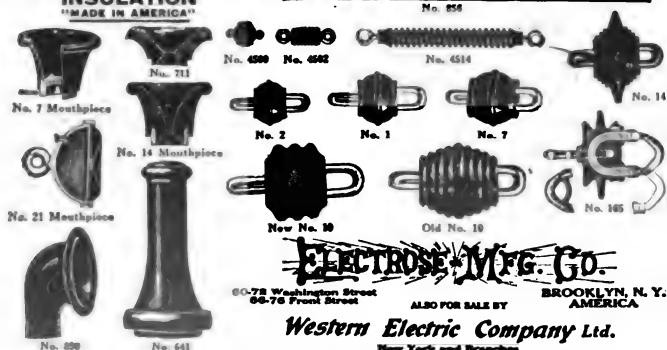
are  
guaranteed  
to stand up

**THE VLCHKEK TOOL CO.**  
CLEVELAND, O.



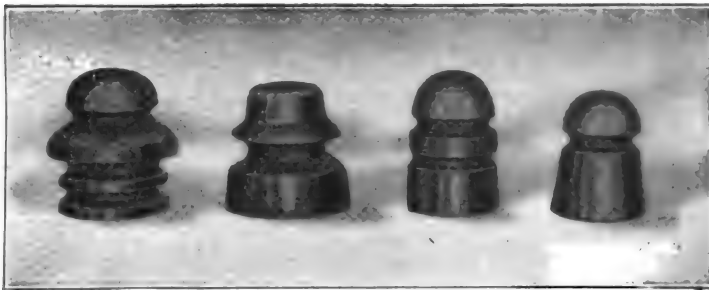
**ELECTROSE**  
INSULATION  
"MADE IN AMERICA"

INSULATORS 1,000 TO 1,000,000 VOLTS  
LOUIS STEINBERGER'S PATENTS



**ELECTROSE MFG. CO.**

60-72 Washington Street  
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ALSO FOR SALE BY  
**Western Electric Company Ltd.**  
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## THOMAS Telephone Insulators

High voltage power lines everywhere use porcelain insulators on account of their long life and reliability. Porcelain is stronger than glass, and also less hygroscopic. Why not secure these advantages for your telephone lines by specifying THOMAS porcelain insulators.

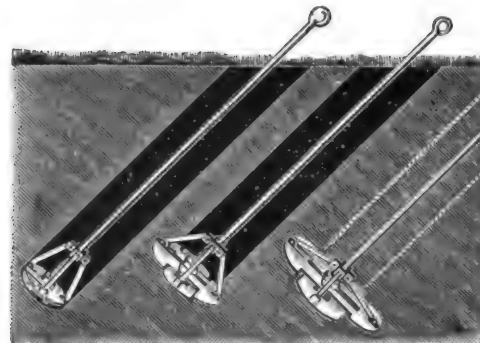
Manufactured by  
**The R. Thomas & Sons Co.**  
EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

Distributed by  
**Western Electric Company**  
INCORPORATED  
Offices in all principal cities

## EVERSTICK ANCHORS

are used by every Bell Telephone Co. in the United States except one. We feel this one has made a mistake. Lighting Companies and Electric Railway Companies not using Everstick Anchors have also made a like mistake, for there is but one best Anchor.

**THE EVERSTICK ANCHOR CO.**  
ST. LOUIS, MO.



1 2 3  
Fig. 1—Represents Anchor Placed at bottom of hole.  
Fig. 2—Partially Expanded. Fig. 3—Fully Expanded.

## TELEPHONE WIRE

We Guarantee  
Greatest Efficiency  
Longest Life  
Most Satisfactory Service  
Lowest Cost of Up-keep  
In the Use of our wire.



**Write for FREE SAMPLE  
Make Test and Comparison**

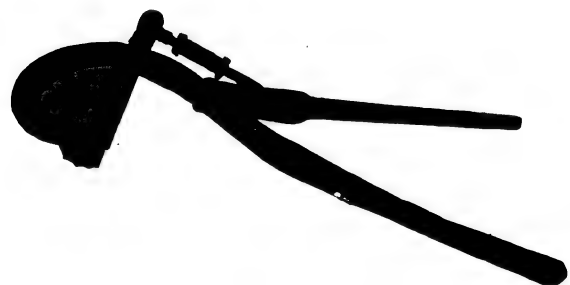


Approved by Leading Institutions of Technology and Telephonic Science. Handled by most representative Jobbers and Supply Houses.

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Muncie, Indiana

## DIAMOND CRIMPER

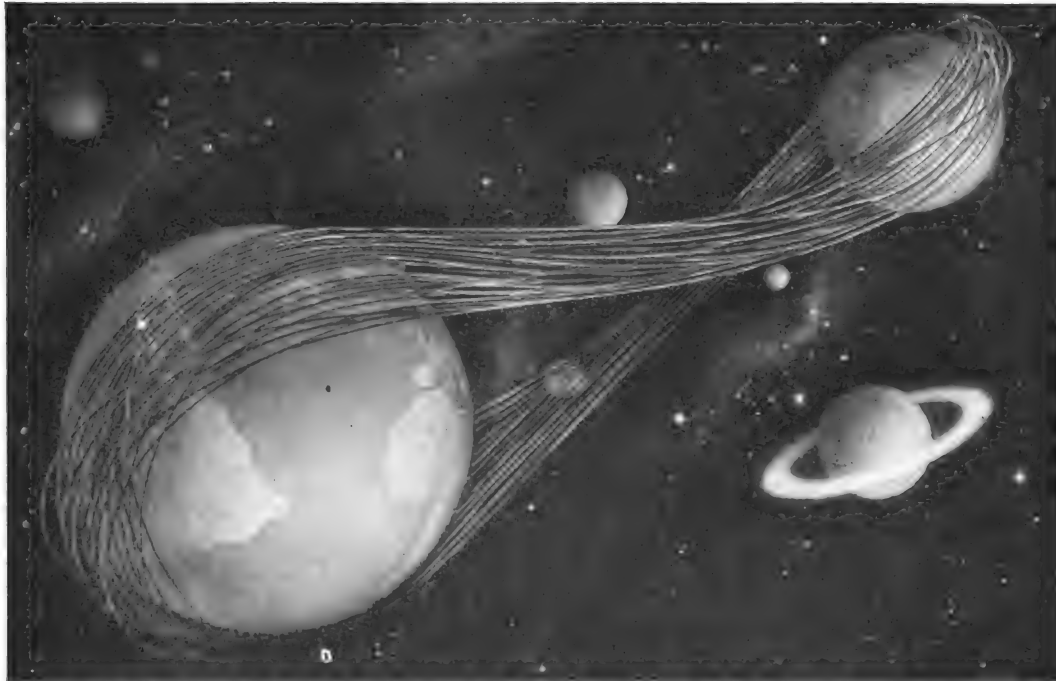
**For Securely Crimping Aerial Rings  
to Suspension Strands**



### Enormous Power

Convenience in operation is one of the principal points considered in the design of this tool. Each tool furnished with three sets of case hardened jaws to suit different diameters of messenger strand.

**Diamond Expansion Bolt Company**  
Manufacturers of Diamond Specialties  
90 West Street, Cor. Cedar, New York City



## Twenty Million Miles of Telephone Wire

The telephone wire in use in the Bell System is long enough to run from the earth to the moon and back again forty times.

The Bell System has about twice as much telephone wire as all Europe.

More than 500,000 new telephones are being added to the Bell System yearly—almost as many as the total number of telephones in England.

In twelve months the Bell System adds enough telephones to duplicate

the entire telephone systems of France, Italy and Switzerland combined.

In proportion to population the extension of the Bell System in the United States is equal in two years to the total telephone progress of Europe since the telephone was invented—a period of about forty years.

The Bell System fills the telephone needs of the American people with a thoroughness and a spirit of public service which are without parallel the world over.



**AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY  
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES**

***One Policy***

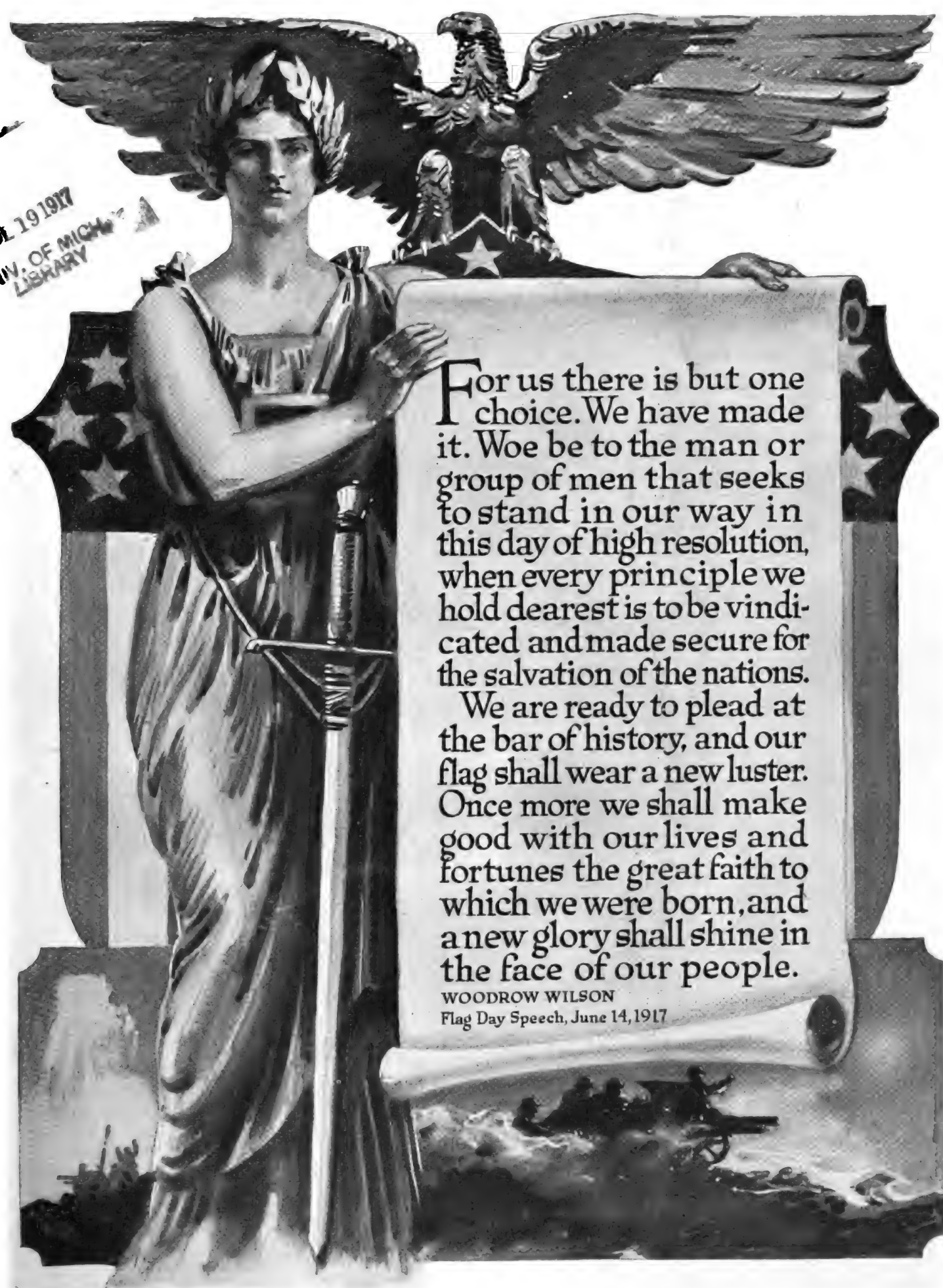
***One System***

***Universal Service***



# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

JUL 19 1917  
UNIV. OF MICH.  
LIBRARY



For us there is but one choice. We have made it. Woe be to the man or group of men that seeks to stand in our way in this day of high resolution, when every principle we hold dearest is to be vindicated and made secure for the salvation of the nations.

We are ready to plead at the bar of history, and our flag shall wear a new luster. Once more we shall make good with our lives and fortunes the great faith to which we were born, and a new glory shall shine in the face of our people.

WOODROW WILSON

Flag Day Speech, June 14, 1917

# Bell Telephones

AND CONNECTIONS

## In the Territory of the Central Group of Companies

---

JUNE 1, 1917

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Connected</u>	<u>Total</u>
ILLINOIS	670,368	283,140	953,508
OHIO	252,402	231,718	484,120
INDIANA	119,300	223,958	343,258
MICHIGAN	264,941	84,794	349,735
WISCONSIN	<u>175,639</u>	<u>152,519</u>	<u>328,158</u>
	1,482,650	976,129	2,458,779

# BELL TELEPHONE NEWS

ONE POLICY

UNIVERSAL SERVICE

ONE SYSTEM

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Number 12

## The Month in Michigan

News Notes and Personal Items of Interest

Julius H. Moeller, Correspondent, Detroit

### Detroit District

C. S. Slack, division commercial superintendent, recently entertained his nephew, Julius Eaton Slack, of Menominee, who stopped off at Detroit, en route to West Point Military Academy. The young man received one of the two appointments made from Michigan to Uncle Sam's war college as a result of having passed a very successful examination at Fort Sheridan last March.

Mr. and Mrs. George M. Welch had the pleasure of welcoming a baby boy into their family circle on June 1st. Mr. Welch says he calls the baby "Jimmie" but we have it from better authority that the child's name is James Arthur. Mr. and Mrs. Welch are now the proud parents of three children.

Miss Florence Carncross, manager of the Operators' Training Department, Albany, New York, will spend several months in Detroit assisting in the reorganization of that department. She is a telephone pioneer and has had wide experience in traffic work, having risen from operator to her present position. Miss Carncross will also assist in establishing a training course for supervisors.

William Slocum has been transferred from the position of District Traffic Chief of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company in Detroit to the general offices of the company in New York. There he will be connected with the plant layout department. Mr. Slocum is succeeded in Detroit by Frank Twomey of the office of the District Traffic Chief, A. T. & T., New York City. Mr. Twomey is a native of Brockton, Mass., and a graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass. He has been connected with the A. T. & T. since 1910.

C. S. Slack had the honor of being elected a delegate to represent the Detroit Rotary Club at the national convention of Rotary clubs held at Atlanta, Georgia, the week of June 17th. Owing to the fact that the News in its last issue erroneously reported that Mr. Slack had joined the signal corps, he feared his absence from his of-

fice might be misinterpreted. Mr. Slack will continue to serve his country through the telephone company.

In a rearrangement of forces in the Detroit commercial department, William A. Cardinal was appointed contract manager, succeeding Edward Steiner, resigned. Mr. Cardinal has been with the company ten years.

A. T. Babbitt, formerly chief clerk to Mr. Slack, has been named to fill the position of superintendent of collections, left vacant by Mr. Cardinal's promotion. J. J. Foley, who entered the employ of the Michigan State Telephone Company last November is now filling Mr. Babbitt's former position. He was previously a clerk in the contract department.

Marion J. Hagar has been transferred from the collection department to the contract division, serving as chief clerk to Mr. Cardinal. Miss Mildred Kageff, stenographer, has also been transferred from the collection to the contract department and Miss Jessie McCurdy has taken a clerical position.

Miss L. M. Cooper, who has taken up Miss McCurdy's work at the newspaper clipping desk, is a recent addition to the Detroit commercial forces. She is quite well known in musical circles as a vocalist and has done considerable concert work.

C. F. Street has been appointed Maintenance supervisor for Detroit. He began his new duties June 11th. Mr. Street comes to Detroit on a transfer from the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania. He is a native of Philadelphia and has lived there all his life previous to coming to Detroit. After graduating from the public schools of Philadelphia, Mr. Street attended Spring Garden Technical Institute before entering the employ of the Bell company in 1901. His experience in the telephone business began with installer's helper and has covered all phases of the work of the plant department between that and his present position. Before coming to Detroit Mr. Street was wire chief in Philadelphia.

### Grand Rapids District

A shower was given at the South office for Miss Marie Steves, whose marriage to Edward J. Wilke took place May 30th. Miss Steves was presented with a dozen silver hand-hammered teaspoons. Mr. and Mrs. Wilke spent a few days in Chicago and are at home at 19 La Belle street, S. E.

Miss Marie Finnegan, operator toll department, was married May 16th.

Miss Florence Hedt, supervisor at Main office, was married June 4th to Derrick Hansma.

Miss Marie Murry, operator at South office, was married to Elmer R. Kyes of Lansing, June 4th.

Miss Jennie L. Robinson, toll operator, spent her vacation at Big Rapids.

Miss Dorothy M. Cooke, toll operator, is on a three months' furlough. She is attending her sister, who is ill in Panama.

The employees of the Grand Rapids office showed considerable enthusiasm during the Red Cross campaign, carried on during the week from May 5th and 12th. A total of ninety memberships was received, and \$106.45 contributed.

### Jackson District

Mrs. E. Wason Faulkner, chief operator at Battle Creek, resigned her position June 1st, after serving for seventeen years in telephone work, fourteen, with the Michigan State Telephone Company and three years with the telephone company at Denver, Colorado. She

had held the position of chief operator at Battle Creek for a number of years, but felt it was now time to take a rest. Her smiling face and pleasant ways will be greatly missed by all. On June 6th the Battle Creek local supervisors and toll operators numbering about thirty gave Mrs. Faulkner a farewell surprise party at



MRS. E. WASON FAULKNER

her home. Miss Waterhouse, in behalf of the girls, presented her with an ivory toilet set as a token of their esteem.

Miss Hazel Feeney, traffic clerk at Battle Creek, is convalescing from an operation for appendicitis. Miss Doris Wilson is filling her position during her absence.

Battle Creek operators have proved that they are not lacking in courage when the occasion arises, as was shown when the severe windstorm struck Battle Creek June 6th. There was not a girl who did not remain at her position and help care for the increase in traffic. Their faithfulness was very much appreciated by the executive force. Miss Louise Powers, a local operator, was struck on the shoulder by a piece of wreckage as she was on her way to work, but was not seriously injured.

Miss Bernice Fowle, instructress at Battle Creek, has been promoted to the position of chief operator, and Miss Ethel Gould, toll supervisor, who is now attending the School of Instruction at Detroit, will take charge of the instruction work upon her return.

At the last conference at Battle Creek, held May 25th, Dr. Martin of the Battle Creek Sanitarium, gave a very interesting health talk, illustrated with stereopticon pictures. A short musical program was also given and the evening was greatly enjoyed.

Manager and Mrs. George Graham entertained the traffic and commercial departments of the Hillsdale exchange at their home, Monday evening, June 18th. Nearly all employees were present. Dancing, music and a social hour were enjoyed,

after which refreshments of ice cream and cake were served.

Miss Margaret Carroll has resigned her position as cashier at the Hillsdale exchange. She will attend school at Kalamazoo. Miss Edna Fuller has taken the position left vacant.

### Traffic Meeting at Pontiac

The young ladies of the traffic department, at Pontiac, held an operators' meeting Thursday evening, May 17th. It was so successful that the traffic employees are planning for more meetings, at least one a month.

Miss Gertrude Wildgen, chief operator, made a few introductory remarks, then each young lady present was requested to answer to the roll call with a phrase—local operators using local phrases and toll operators toll phrases.

Miss Matilda Livingston, instructor, then told a story of how one toll operator handled AG work, and all the toll operators are real "missionaries" now, for this was a missionary story.

Miss Natalie Hunsberger, local operator, related "first impressions of a student operator," and every operator in the exchange has decided to make the student days of an operator more pleasant in a social way, especially in the retiring rooms.

The Misses Antoinette Bielic, Lila Bartenbaker, Anna Mathis and Clara Marsh, local operators, debated on a most important subject, "Resolved, that voluntary supervision and disconnects are more important than answer to line signals." The

Misses Zilpha Chapman and Ellen Burke of the commercial department and Miss Evelyn Doyle of the plant department were the judges, and these young ladies stated that it was very hard indeed to judge such a closely contested debate.

Miss Isabel Coons, toll supervisor, then gave a very interesting talk on "The Voice with the Smile," and all our operators are now practicing it, for Miss Coons in her talk told how a minister had recommended telephone girls to the young men of his flock as wives, because they have such gentle voices.

Miss Jane Grover, toll operator, proposed a toast to the telephone girl, which was greatly enjoyed. A few impromptu remarks which were greatly appreciated were made by O. A. Wells, manager.

A flashlight photograph was taken just before the "happy bunch" went to the Oakland Theatre, where they were guests of the management.

### Kalamazoo District

Miss Hazel Price, night operator at the Eau Claire exchange, has resigned her position to enter the poultry business. Miss Inas Young, relief operator at Eau Claire, succeeds Miss Price as night operator.

Miss Beulah Kendal has accepted the position of relief operator at Eau Claire.

Miss Lula M. Clark has been working as temporary operator at Eau Claire.

George Waldo, formerly cable helper at Kalamazoo, has accepted the position of night man.

Thomas Finn of the Kalamazoo exchange



TRAFFIC EMPLOYEES OF PONTIAC. PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN AFTER MEETING OF MAY 17TH.



has accepted a position with the toll superintendent at Detroit, as toll line inspector.

Mentor Housel, foreman at the Kalamazoo exchange, was married May 26th to Miss Anna F. Rodman. Mr. Housel was presented with a beautiful reading lamp by his associates in the plant department.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Thomas are the proud parents of a seven-pound girl, born May 24th. Mr. Thomas is the P. B. X. repairman at Kalamazoo and was formerly employed in the Detroit office.

R. W. Thomas, P. B. X. repairman at Kalamazoo, has completed the installation of a cordless P. B. X. board at the Ford garage.

Charles Swarthout, formerly night man at Kalamazoo, has accepted the position of installer.

Miss Eva Humberston resigned her position as local operator at Dowagiac to return to Chicago to care for her mother, who is very ill. Miss Wilma Stutsman succeeds Miss Humberston.

The company has just completed a new circuit from Benton Harbor and Dowagiac, which gives an added copper circuit, which is very much appreciated at this point.

Mrs. Maude Bell Bergen has been promoted from toll operator to toll supervisor at Benton Harbor.

Miss Hazel Taggart has been promoted from local to toll operator at Benton Harbor.

Miss Ada Hess has been promoted from temporary to regular operator in the local department at Benton Harbor.

Miss Helen Babcock has been promoted to evening chief operator at Benton Harbor to succeed former Evening Chief Operator May Frock, who became the bride of William Klauck on June 24th.

Miss Andrey Anderson has been promoted from temporary operator to regular operator at Benton Harbor.

Miss Mable Steinke has been promoted from temporary operator to regular operator at Benton Harbor.

A St. Joseph subscriber called a meat market and having reached the wrong number inquired: "Have you any liver?" Party called: "Oh my, yes." "What kind of a liver have you?" Answer: "A white man's liver, of course."

The Misses Ella Williams and Lucille Beatty, local operators at St. Joseph, resigned to be married. Miss Williams left May 1st and Miss Beatty May 26th.

The Misses Burrigle, Price and Swanson have accepted positions as local operators at St. Joseph, the latter returning from Chicago, where she had spent the winter. She worked at St. Joseph last summer.

Miss Myrtle Fowler, local operator at the Buchanan exchange, has resigned to accept a position with the Clark Equipment Company of Buchanan.

Miss Olive Buzzard, local operator at Buchanan, has resigned her position and moved to South Bend, Ind.

### "Libby" Acts Up Again

For the last twenty-three years it has been the custom of the Masonic body at Charlotte to give an annual minstrel show.

During each and every one of those twenty-three years, James Dell, telephone



JAMES DELL.

repairman at Charlotte, has held down the position of end man with ever increasing popularity.

This year was no exception. For two nights, April 19th and 20th, Mr. Dell and associates held the boards at the Masonic Temple and scored a success which the *Charlotte Republican* termed the "best ever for an amateur production."

Apparently this telephone comedian performed a stellar role, for the *Republican* devotes a whole paragraph sounding his praises, as follows: "It is but fitting to devote a separate paragraph to the final farewell appearance for the season of 1916-17 to that dean of minstrelsy, Mr. James 'Libby' Dell. He probably scored the biggest hit of his long career and the winking incandescent bulb in his shirt bosom to accompany his highly indecorous song, 'Pray for the Lights to Go Out,' was the biggest hit of the show. 'Libby' has the faculty of extracting a laugh from Von Hindenburg himself, and the quality improves with time. This, of course, was his last appearance, but just register a bet that he has already picked out his song for next time and is trying to master the words already. He scored again when he sang 'They're Wearing 'Em Higher in Hawaii.'"

Mr. Dell has been employed by the Michigan State Telephone Company for twenty years.

### Lansing District

Misses Lillian Welton, Marion Lewis, Genevieve Ressler and Bernice Wheeler en-

tered the local operating department during May.

Misses Marceline Cranson, Loretta Dakin and Ruth Balen entered the traffic department as local operators on June 4th.

Miss Matilda Louiere, formerly operator at Detroit, was transferred to Lansing as local operator, June 5th.

Miss Hazel Richardson, local operator, has been transferred to Charlevoix, Mich., which is her home.

Miss Aileen Hibblin, local operator, returned to her duties after spending a week's vacation at Saginaw.

The Western Electric installers, under the supervision of A. H. Marinier, have just completed four hundred multiple and two "A" positions which will somewhat relieve the congested conditions at the Lansing exchange.

Misses Emilene Tibbites, Vivian Stewart, Eileen Bates and Helen Watkins have been transferred to local.

Miss Ione Gruesbeck, local operator, has been promoted to the position of service observer at Lansing.

On June 18th Miss Tresea Milne, Bernice Wheeler and Lillian Welton were transferred to long distance.

Miss Eva Foote, directory clerk, has been promoted to the position of toll operator.

Miss Anna Mason has entered local as vacation operator.

Miss Mertie Smith, toll operator, has returned to her home at Binghamton, New York, and has been transferred to the company there.

Miss Lena Snyder, toll operator, has been transferred to Battle Creek.

The Howell operators were pleasantly entertained at the home of Miss Margaret Russell with a miscellaneous shower in honor of Miss Shirley Cook, who was married May 27th. Games and music were enjoyed, after which refreshments were served.

Misses Fern Haight, Gladys Jackson and Myrtle Rathbun have accepted positions as operators at Howell.

James Halleck has accepted a position as repairman at Howell.

Miss Gladys Linebaugh, night operator at Portland, resigned to attend school at Ypsilanti. Miss Letha Ball, relief operator, succeeds Miss Linebaugh. Miss Edith Fox has accepted a position as relief operator.

Miss Beulah Urie, toll operator at Portland, has returned from a two weeks' vacation, spent in several places in the state.

Archie Coates, P. B. X. repairman, and Mark McCrumb, repairman, were called to Fort Wayne to take the examination for the signal corps.

The construction department has been busy for the past few weeks rebuilding and extending the rural lines of the Lansing exchange. This means an addition of about seventy new subscribers.

### Marquette District

In the Loyalty Parade held in Ironwood on Memorial day, and in which over three thousand persons took part, one of the features was the operators of that exchange wearing their sets.

The Ironwood exchange is to have a prize lawn this year. A new high board fence has been built all around the lawn, not to keep out the Germans, but to keep in the flowers. Along this fence are planted sweet peas, zinnias, nasturtiums and marigolds. In the center of the lawn is a bell-shaped bed in which forget-me-nots and alyssum are planted.

Operators of the Ironwood exchange, wearing their head sets, rode in the Loyalty Parade on Memorial Day. More than three thousand persons took part in the parade.

Miss Beatrice Boyer, former local operator at the Marquette exchange, filled Miss Mabel Murphy's position during her absence. Miss Murphy was ill in St. Luke's hospital.

Miss Eva Sloan, a senior operator at the Calumet exchange, was married May 15th.

Miss Hazel Dupont has accepted a position at the Calumet exchange.

A No. 1 P. B. X. with two trunks and seven terminals was installed at the First National Bank, Marquette, during June.

Miss Lucy Moyle, toll operator at Marquette, enjoyed a week's vacation visiting friends and relatives in Negaunee, Ishpeming and Calumet.

Miss Elizabeth Lawrence, local operator at Marquette, spent her vacation in Ishpeming.

R. P. Fletcher, who has been employed as wire chief by the Western Union at Marquette, has accepted a position as toll testman No. 2 at Marquette.

C. J. E. Zerbelt, student of the Marquette plant department, spent the last week of May enjoying his vacation on the farm at Green Garden. Mr. Zerbelt returned to work full of new life, singing and whistling the popular song, "I love the cows and chickens."

A. J. Bishop of the Marquette plant department, entertained at a stag party Saturday evening, June 9th. Up to 1 a. m. Sunday it had not yet been necessary to call the new police patrol wagon.

Miss Anna Johnson, toll operator at the Marquette exchange, started her vacation June 15th. Miss Johnson expected to spend one week in Duluth, Minn.

Miss Patricia McGann, night operator at Marquette, enjoyed a week's vacation.

The operators of the Marquette exchange have received most encouraging letters from Miss Mayme Maclam (a former operator) regarding improvement in her health since having gone to the sanitarium at Morgan Heights.

Miss Beatrice Boyer, operator of the Marquette exchange, resigned April 28th. Miss Boyer is succeeded by Miss Veronica Falardeau.

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### Menominee District

Miss Martha Merrick, local operator at Iron River, has accepted a position with the Verona Mining Company as P. B. X. operator. The Verona company has recently been equipped with a private branch switchboard, with two trunk lines and nine terminals.

Miss Mary Mottl has been appointed operator at the Menominee exchange.

Mrs. George Bomber, former operator at the Menominee exchange, was pleasantly surprised by the operators. Games were played during the evening and light refreshments were served. All reported an enjoyable evening. As Mrs. Bomber was a recent bride, the operators took the opportunity of presenting her with a set of silver knives and forks.

The operators of the Menominee exchange enjoyed a concert at the home of Miss Clara Lemke, night operator. The party was a surprise on Miss Lemke, the girls taking their needle work. Refreshments were served.

Miss Ida Raddant, operator at the Gladstone exchange, has resigned her position and will reside at Shawano, Wis., having accepted a position with the Wisconsin Telephone Company at that point.

Miss Florence Shy, operator at Escanaba, has returned from her vacation, spent in Chicago and Marinette.

Miss Margaret Lang, evening chief operator, spent her vacation in Gary, Ind.

Miss Lucile Craig, operator at Escanaba, has resigned and is to be married. She will reside in Chicago.

### Petoskey District

On June 7th a party was given by the traffic force of the Traverse City exchange at the home of Miss Effie Fryxel in honor of Miss Julia Yenish, evening chief operator, who resigned from the service June 15th. The evening was spent in games and dancing, after which a potluck supper was enjoyed. Miss Yenish was presented with a cut-glass water set.

Ernest Sprague, manager of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company of Kingsley, has shown considerable energy since taking charge of the work last November. Mr. Sprague began his telephone career in 1905



ERNEST SPRAGUE

with the Traverse Bays Telephone Company of Central Lake. Later he was connected with the Citizens Telephone Company of Traverse City for a short time. He spent several years with the Bell company of Traverse City, Cadillac and Battle Creek and then accepted a position with the Benzie Consolidated Tel-

ephone Company. While there he was injured when a telephone pole broke off and fell with him, disabling him very badly. He suffered from the effects of the accident three years. Last November he accepted his present position. The exchange at that time had 165 subscribers. Since then the company has purchased a new two-position switchboard, a building of its own and has added ninety-five subscribers. The company has all the orders on hand that can be filled at the present.

While Miss Josephine Lada of the Traverse City exchange was absent on her vacation, Miss Mabel Richmond acted as vacation operator.

The Traverse City plant forces and cable men are now engaged in removing the circular tops and cutting into service the new cable boxes which were recently installed.

The Manistee exchange has four operators who have not been absent during the last year. Miss Josie Schlieff, night operator, has not been absent for three years. The Misses Mabel and Alfreda Ericson have not been absent for two years.

### Port Huron District

Earl Kipp of Avoca has accepted a position at Port Huron as lineman No. 2, succeeding Milo K. Rolph.

Louie Munro, cableman's helper at the Port Huron exchange for the last eighteen months, has been promoted to cableman at Mt. Clemens.

Harry Flatman has accepted a position at the Port Huron exchange as installer No. 2.

On Friday evening, May 19th, Miss Louise Marengo entertained a number of girls at a kitchen shower at her home on Elk street in honor of Miss Esther Cline, bride-elect. At a guessing contest prizes were awarded Miss Loretta Kiernan and Lilah Hall. At the close of the evening a dainty lunch was served. Miss Cline and Jay Phelps were quietly married on Saturday, May 19th.

Miss Dorothy Hahn of the Ridge exchange, Cincinnati, visited the Port Huron exchange on Saturday, May 19th.

Miss Florence Johnson, local supervisor at Port Huron, has resumed her duties after spending her vacation with relatives in Scottville, Mich.

Miss Florence Overmeyer, local operator at Port Huron exchange, has returned to her duties after spending her vacation in Lansing.

Miss Mathilda Rossow, toll operator at Port Huron, has returned after spending her vacation at Wadhams.

Miss Louise Marengo, toll supervisor at Port Huron, has returned after spending her vacation with friends in Flint.

Miss Helena Graff, chief operator's clerk, spent her vacation with friends in Flint and Saginaw.

### Saginaw District

Miss Emeline York recently entertained a party of fifteen toll operators in the "Gym" room of the Saginaw Y. W. C. A. in honor of Miss Virgel Flint, toll operator, who has resigned to move to Albany, N. Y. Vocal selections were rendered by Misses Georgia Baker and Anne Flatheau. A luncheon was served by the hostess at the close of the party. Miss Flint was presented with a beautiful necklace by her young friends.

During the latter part of May the Fireside Club of the Saginaw Y. W. C. A. met in one of the last meetings of the year. Miss Mayme Watkins, local supervisor, was in charge of the entertainment. Solos were given by the following operators: Misses Georgia Baker, G. Schuknecht and Anna Kleckner. Miss Beatrice Roney gave a delightful reading. The feature of the entertainment was a talk by Mrs. J. Vincent, who gave an interesting account of bird life.

The Misses Adelia Voelker, Agnes Kleckner and Hattie Bischoff have been promoted to toll positions since the absence of Misses Ruth Beardslee and Doris Kitchen, who have resigned on account of poor health.

Miss Tres Humphrey of Saginaw will become a bride in the near future.

The Misses Belle and Nellie Rogers of Saginaw spent their vacations in Manchester with relatives. Miss Arwilda Corn spent her vacation in Detroit.

A. E. Buchanon, formerly manager at Ithaca, has been transferred to the district foreman's crew as a line foreman. The employees of the Ithaca exchange regret the loss of Mr. Buchanon, but are sincerely glad to have him receive the promotion. Manager H. R. Davenport of Alma will assume charge of the Ithaca exchange in addition to his other managerial duties.

Donald Smith, repairman at Alma, is the owner of a new car. He now travels his route while working for the Michigan State "a la Bob Burman."

Ernest Kaufman of the plant department at Flint spent his vacation in Sullivan, Ind.

Miss Edna Manion was recently transferred from the Grand exchange, Detroit, to the Flint exchange.

Miss Lila G. Seymour, formerly local operator at Flint, was transferred to the Toledo office on June 1st.

The Michigan State Telephone Company contemplates making a serious charge against "Dan Cupid," as he has been playing havoc with the operating conditions at Flint. During the last few weeks a number of operators have left the service to enter into the gentle occupation of operating a home. Miss Elsie Osborne resigned June 1st to become Mrs. Navarre. Mrs. Navarre was in the service three years. Miss Augusta Birmingham also resigned June 1st to be married. On May



CARL ISAMINGER,  
New Manager at Farmington.

30th Pearl Harris, local operator at Flint, was married to Byron Roth. Mrs. Roth left the service June 16th and will reside on a farm.

Miss Maude Mulvogue, who was recently promoted to evening chief operator at Flint, was unable to report for duty for a number of days on account of illness.

Miss Hazel Smith, a local supervisor at Flint, gave a miscellaneous shower in honor of Miss Pearl Harris. A number of the traffic employees attended and their gifts will be much appreciated in Miss Harris's new home.

A number of evening meetings for supervisors at Flint have been held in the past few weeks. Department organization and other traffic instructions are covered. The meetings are followed by a social session.

Miss M. E. Caldwell, chief operator; F. R. Meeker, wire chief, and Manager E. N. Hardy of the Flint exchange attended the Liberty Bond conference at the Vincent hotel, Saginaw.

J. Ward Groom, commercial agent at Flint, spent his vacation at Houghton Lake.

After an illness covering a period of seven weeks, Manager Hardy has returned to his work at Flint.

One of a series of social gatherings of employees of the Michigan State Telephone Company of Gratiot county was held the last of May at St. Louis. Miss Isenath, chief operator at Alma, was hostess of the party. Games and dancing featured the entertainment. Prizes were given to the winners of the various games played. Miss Farnsworth, St. Louis, was the big prize winner of the evening. At twelve o'clock an elaborate dinner was served. Miss Erma Landskroener was the representative from the district manager's office. H. R. Davenport, manager at Alma, accompanied on the piano by Miss Landskroener, ren-

dered a number of delightful solos, which were very much appreciated by the audience.

There has been a change in management of the Mio Telephone Company, wherein Miss Helen Anderson succeeds Mrs. O. O. Frick as manager. The exchange proper has been removed from the Frick building at Mio and will be located in the Anderson building. Mrs. Frick has been manager of this exchange since the West Branch and Mio toll line was constructed. She is retiring from business. Miss Anderson, the new manager, has had valuable telephone experience, which will greatly assist her in conducting the affairs of the exchange.

The Roscommon Telephone Company of Roscommon has had a change in management, D. D. Pattie succeeding W. Orcutt. The present exchange will also be removed to the building owned by the new manager.

Mr. Robinson, switchboard inspector at Saginaw, had charge of the installation of new equipment on the private branch exchange board at the Republic motor truck plant at Alma.

Early in June the Alma exchange and surrounding toll lines suffered extensive damage from a severe wind storm. A number of poles were broken off near the city, which caused some delay in calls. Manager Davenport, accompanied by Roy Woodward, repairman, cleared the trouble within an hour and a half after they learned of the condition.

Donald Smith, formerly repairman at Saginaw, has been transferred to St. Louis as repairman.

### Lafferty of the U. S. A.

Foreman A. E. Lafferty of the Grand Rapids district was recently working with a crew of linemen near Lake Odessa when he took advantage of a little incident to show his brand of Americanism.

Going along the country road near the town the telephone linemen noticed that a farmer was displaying the American flag turned upside down. Lafferty is not the kind of man to invite trouble, but when he sees anything that might reflect upon his country it is too much for him to pass it by unnoticed.

He approached the farmer who was thus dishonoring the flag and his country. A few questions as to the why and wherefore developed that the perpetrator of this act of disrespect had anything but a love for "Old Glory" in his heart. He let loose a tirade of abuse against the Government of the United States and its national colors.

The telephone lineman, through Foreman Lafferty as spokesman, presented an ultimatum to the desecrator of the flag. "Kiss the flag and fly it right-side-up or you will have need of a physician's services," said Lafferty and his men. The command was immediately obeyed to the letter.



A. E. LAFFERTY

### Red Cross Campaign in Detroit

Telephone people took an active part in the Red Cross campaign in Detroit the week of June 17th and assisted materially in raising the city's allotment of \$2,000,000.

George M. Welch, general manager, was made captain of a team of solicitors and devoted a considerable amount of time to the cause of the Red Cross. Under his direction the entire force of employes was made familiar with the purpose of the campaign and arrangements were made to permit all employes to contribute who felt so inclined.

During the last two days of the campaign a force of thirty-eight telephone men was turned loose upon a district comprising as many city blocks, to make a house-to-house canvass of the territory over which Mr. Welch has assumed responsibility. Mr. Heywood assumed the management of this company of solicitors, which he picked from the most available men of all departments.

The general manager, together with ye correspondent, undertook to call upon merchants on the west side of Woodward avenue, between Henry street and Stimson place. Results will not be known for several days after this is written but indications are that the work of the telephone company employes in behalf of the Red Cross have proved of material consequence in boosting Detroit's contribution toward the two million mark.

Some of the men who were out soliciting had the novel experience of being held up by the police and being subjected to the scrutinizing eyes of representatives of the detective bureau. Having read of a huge Red Cross fake that was perpetrated in Detroit recently, some suspicious person telephoned to

police headquarters that some men were soliciting funds for the Red Cross, and that there was grave doubt as to their integrity.

To the great surprise of two of the telephone men, a motorcycle patrolman drove up in front of a house just as they were leaving. Responding to his inquiries as to their identification, they presented their cards. The officer was not willing to be put off that easily. He engaged the boys in conversation till assistance arrived. Presently a big touring car drove up and three keen-eyed detectives peered out at the innocent telephone men who were giving their time and effort in behalf of the Red Cross. The detectives were more skeptical than the officer and did not permit the men to continue their work until a talk with the office of the general manager had satisfied them of the character of the solicitors. Though hampered in this way in their work after having had the attention of the entire neighborhood drawn upon them, the boys continued on the job with good resolution and gave a good account of themselves at the end of the day.

### Michigan Liberty Loan Subscriptions

The patriotic manner in which employes of the Michigan State Telephone Company responded to the Liberty Loan appeal was very gratifying to the officials. Participation was apparently general among employes for there was a total of 3,710 sub-

scriptions. They yielded an aggregate of \$222,650.

Operating under a well organized plan, officials were able to acquaint every employe of the nature of the movement and of the needs of the government. The appeal first went out to department heads and then down the line. Thus, virtually every employe learned of the purpose and plan of the loan first hand and was given an opportunity to have any question regarding the project fully explained.

To the traffic department go the honors of first place in the amount of contributions. The plant department was a good second with all other departments making a good showing for the number of people employed.

### District Manager's Office Moved

On May 19th, District Manager Mason, of Saginaw, moved his offices from the telephone building in Saginaw to an office suite in the Eddy Building, one of the largest office structures in the city. This removal was made to afford more space in the present quarters of the Michigan State Telephone Company. The new offices will be on the fourth floor. They are well lighted and will certainly be a credit to the company.

The space left vacant by the moving of Mr. Mason's office will be given over to the plant and traffic departments of the Saginaw exchange. Mr. Chandler, wire chief, and Miss Thomson, paymaster, will retain their offices in the old quarters, while the remainder of the office will be used as an operator's school. The present location of the school is in the operating room.



TELEPHONE RED CROSS TEAM WHICH DID SPLENDID WORK IN DETROIT.  
Insert—General Manager George M. Welch, captain of the team.



### New Manager at Saginaw

On June 1st H. A. Woodruff was appointed manager of the Saginaw exchange.

Mr. Woodruff's appointment is more or less of a home coming, as the newly-chosen manager began his business life in the employ of the company which is now reengaging him as manager. Just after completing his education in the Saginaw schools Mr. Woodruff obtained a position with the Michigan State Telephone Company and was engaged in various capacities until he accepted a position as clerk to the car distributor of the Pere Marquette Railroad Company. By application to his duties he finally worked himself up to the car distributor's position. After gaining recognition in this place he left this department of the railroad company to become chief clerk and assistant to the superintendent of the Pere Marquette. Finally, he resigned from the railroad company to accept the position of purchasing agent for the McClure Company, one of the largest industries of Saginaw. More recently Mr. Woodruff heard the old call of the telephone business and resigned to accept a place in the forces of the Michigan State Telephone Company at Detroit.

The extensive experience in the business world which Mr. Woodruff has acquired will be a valuable asset to him in his newly elected field. The acquaintanceships and friendships he has enjoyed in Saginaw from his boyhood days will also be of much benefit to him.

### Dance at Lansing

On May 29th, the operators of the Lansing exchange gave a dance at the Woman's Club House.

The Misses Gilleo and Wheeler head-



H. A. WOODRUFF.

ed the committees, and were assisted by twenty of the other employees, as well as the private branch exchange operators throughout the city. The dance was well planned, and was an unqualified success. The operators made a small sum on the dance after all expenses had been met.

The dance was attended by a number of friends of the operators, and by the out-of-town forces throughout the Lansing District. The Grand Ledge office was represented by four members.

Particular credit is due the Misses Gilleo and Wheeler for their untiring efforts before and during the dance, as well as to their assistants on the various committees.

### M. S. T. Engineering Club

A regular meeting of the M. S. T. Engineering Club of Detroit was held on Monday evening, May 14th.

The principal speaker for the evening was C. Kittredge, engineer, who gave a very interesting talk on the general engineering program and policy of the Michigan State Telephone Company. He told many interesting things, very few of which were known by all of the club members.

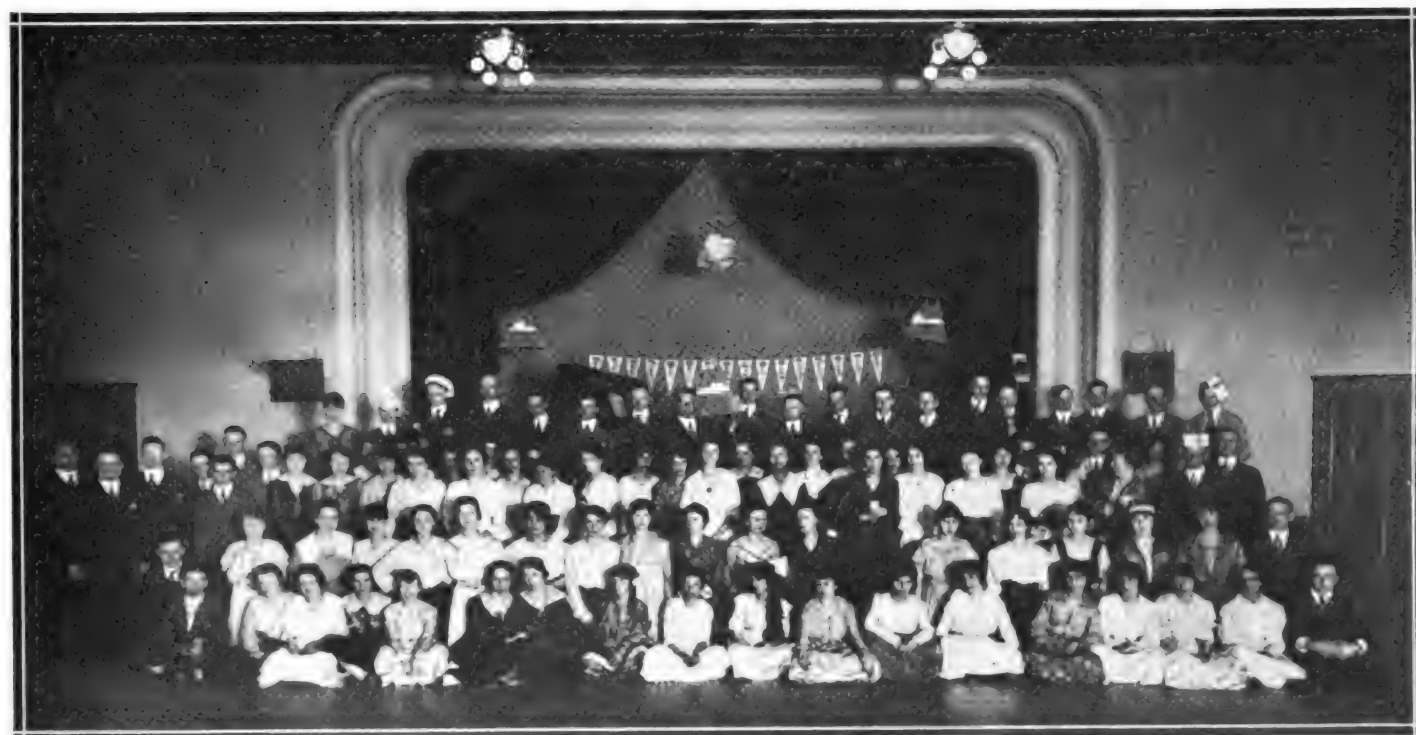
Several questions as to telephone plant and apparatus had been handed in by various members and these questions were taken up in order and answered and explained by others who were in a position to furnish the necessary information. It is believed that this feature of the club activity will prove very valuable because it stimulates interest in an informal discussion of the various phases of the telephone business. It is believed that many questions will be discussed in this way which otherwise would not be brought up for the reason that members are at liberty to turn in questions anonymously.

The meeting was considered a very profitable one and it is expected that the future meetings of the club will be still more profitable.

### New Wire Chief at Flint

Frank Meeker has been appointed wire chief at the Flint exchange, taking the place of Fred D. Nelson, who has been selected for the district foreman's position at the Saginaw office. Mr. Meeker assumed his new position April 1st.

The new wire chief entered the service of the Central Group of Telephone Companies, starting with the Central Union in



OPERATORS' PARTY AT LANSING.

1896, remaining mostly in Ohio until August, 1911, at which time he was transferred to the construction department in Michigan. He worked on specific estimates throughout the state and spent a season in the Upper Peninsula as a member of this department.

Mr. Meeker entered the service in Flint in September, 1916, and served in the capacity of city foreman until April, 1, 1917.

Owing to the large growth in the telephone business in Flint an efficient wire chief is very essential, and Mr. Meeker has filled Mr. Nelson's position exceptionally well. The industrial organizations and business places of Flint have been benefited very much by the able work of the new wire chief in the figuring of cable and multiple changes in order to relieve the congested conditions, and the citizens of Flint have not been backward in complimenting the plant force on their good work of which Mr. Meeker should receive a big per cent. of the credit.

### New Work Started

Work on the following estimates was begun in the course of the last month:

#### Estimate M-17019—Detroit

This estimate provides for the construction of additional underground and aerial cable plant out Grand River avenue, between Vicksburg avenue and Plymouth road. The approximate cost is \$75,000. Pole work consists of setting 580 poles and dismantling 280 poles. It is proposed to place approximately 1,200 feet of twenty-five-pair; 32,000 feet of fifty-pair; 12,000 feet of one hundred-pair; 8,500 feet of two hundred-pair. In connection with this work it is proposed to cut in about 350 No. 14 type distributing terminals. Open wire and twisted pair are to be removed. About 11,200 feet of nine hundred-pair underground cable are to be installed.

#### Estimate M-17012—Detroit

Provides for additional underground cable and aerial plant in the Hemlock area tributary to Hamilton boulevard and authorizes an expenditure of \$99,101. The pole work consists of placing new poles, straightening existing poles and replacing defective poles. It requires the setting of 219 poles and dismantling of 170 poles. Open and twisted pair wire is to be replaced by aerial and underground cable. Specifications call for 3,300 feet of twenty-five-pair cable; 30,000 feet of fifty-pair cable; 16,400 feet of one hundred-pair cable; 2,700 feet of two hundred-pair cable and provides for dismantling 12,000 feet of twenty-five-pair cable; 16,500 feet of fifty-pair cable; 4,000 feet of one hundred-pair cable and 5,800 feet of two hundred-pair cable. The estimate also provides for laying 3,400 feet of nine hundred-pair cable on Glendale avenue from the Hemlock office to Hamilton boulevard; 9,200 feet of nine hundred-pair cable on Hamilton boulevard from Glendale to Palmer,

—M

and 6,300 feet of nine hundred-pair cable on Hamilton from Glendale to the alley north of Atkinson. The estimate adds 5.5 pole miles to the plant and 8,000 miles of copper wire.

#### Estimate M-16176—West Branch-Gaylord

This estimate provides for a No. 104 copper circuit and a phantom circuit between West Branch and Gaylord and to install No. 46-A repeating coils at West Branch-Roscommon-Grayling and Gaylord.

#### Estimate M-17018—East Tawas

This estimate covers removal of aerial construction from Main street and authorizes an expenditure of \$2,733. It provides for dismantling existing exchange cable on the present route and installation of larger cable on the new route to take care of the growing business here.

#### Estimate M-16194—Dearborn

Replaces bad open wire conditions and provides for additional facilities for new business now held up on account of no cable pairs. The estimate adds sixty-one miles of copper wire to the plant and authorizes an expenditure of \$1,201.

#### Estimate M-16180—Grand Haven

The estimate provides for cable replacements and authorizes an expenditure of \$5,318. It replaces one fifty-pair, nineteen-gauge and one fifty-pair twenty-two-gauge cable on Seventh street with a TA-300-pair cable and adds 530.9 miles of copper wire to the plant.

#### Estimate M-17040—Detroit-Lincoln

Covers additional underground conduit and authorizes an expenditure of \$41,812. It is planned to open the new Lincoln exchange November 1, 1917, and then to cut in such part of the present Ridge exchange area as will give a total of 4,100 lines as of December 31, 1919, without further change of boundary. To do this, it is necessary to build conduit leads on Van Dyke avenue from the Lincoln office to Charlevoix and on Warren avenue from Van Dyke to Fischer avenue.

#### Estimate M-17022—Detroit-Flint

Toll line additions are provided for in this estimate, which authorizes an expenditure of \$29,798. Two new No. 104 copper circuits and one phantom circuit are to be added to the Detroit-Flint lines. The estimate provides for rerouting the lines in Pontiac because of tree trouble and rerouting in Detroit because of high tension interference.

#### Estimate M-16174—Jackson-Lansing

This estimate provides for toll line additions and authorizes an expenditure of \$10,955. A new No. 104 copper circuit is to be constructed between Lansing and Jackson. A new phantom circuit is also to be added between Mason and Lansing. Existing Mason-Lansing toll circuits are to be rerouted because of inductive interference.

### Baseball League at Detroit

Baseball fans among Detroit employees of the Michigan State Telephone Company got together June 6th and organized a league of four teams which are to supply entertainment for lovers of the "great American game" during the rest of the season.

Right here let it be said that every telephone employé is cordially invited to attend these games. They are played at Atkinson Park, Warren and Junction avenues, every Saturday afternoon beginning at two o'clock, the weather permitting. The players would like to have the encouragement of their fellow employés, so pick out the team for which you want to root and go to Atkinson Park for your Saturday afternoon outing.

The season was formally opened on June 9th with a good representation of officials on hand to add dignity to the occasion. Mr. Sharpe, general plant superintendent, had the honor of officiating from the pitcher's box long enough to throw the first ball. Mr. Welch, general manager, was on duty behind the bat. Equipment Superintendent Dakin, at bat, refused to consider the first ball served by Mr. Sharpe. Umpire Morford, who regularly is known as the construction superintendent, felt the same as Mr. Dakin did and called it a ball. In his second attempt, Mr. Sharpe improved and passed out something that looked good to Mr. Dakin. He swung his club at the sphere and hit a neat single to left field.

There was a general shake-up for the formal opening of the second game. Mr. Dakin relieved Mr. Welch, who had failed to prove efficient as a back-stop. Mr. Strang, installation supervisor, who had been warming up since Mr. Sharpe pitched his first ball, went into the box. Mr. Morford was the only one of the old outfit to be permitted to remain. Mr. Speed of the engineering department took his place at the plate. The third time the ball crossed the plate, Mr. Speed struck at it in ferocious manner. It shot out to infield but there stopped short in the hands of a regular player. Umpire Morford called him "out."

With these preliminaries over and the officials retired to the side lines, the players got down to business. Construction was pitted against Engineering in the first game. It resulted in a victory for the former by a score of 17 to 9. Batteries for Construction, Mahoney and Cunningham. For Engineering, Phillips and Burke.

Installation and Maintenance put up the second game of the afternoon, the former winning after a hard battle with a score of 13 to 9. Batteries for Installation, Hobbins and Lawson. Batteries for Maintenance, Phillips and Barber.

The following have been elected officers of the league: C. M. Sullivan, president; James Dwyer, treasurer; F. A. Moshier, vice-president; Fred Milne, secretary.

## Michigan Men In Officers Reserve

The Michigan State Telephone Company is represented in the officers reserve corps now in training at Fort Sheridan by six employes, all of whom except one were employed in the Detroit offices. The six Michigan telephone men who will help officer the first increment of the new national army are Veno E. Sacre, C. F. Simpson and H. B. Crump of the Detroit commercial department; Adolph Anselmi, a commercial engineer; D. H. Brush, Jr., of the Detroit plant department, and Frank W. Sheehy, commercial agent at Saginaw.

Mr. Sacre entered the employ of the Michigan State Telephone Company in Detroit July 15, 1916. He was assigned to a position in the collection department, having charge of accounts in the East, Walnut and Market offices. He has become a general favorite with his associates.

Mr. Sacre is typical of the kind of men the government has sought to interest in the officers reserve corps. After graduating from manual training high school, Indianapolis, he entered Wabash College, where he was easily a leader among his fellow students. Last June he graduated from the Crawfordsville institution. He came to Detroit to seek a position where he might earn money to continue his education. His attention was called to the opportunities for night study in the Detroit College of Law. Entering this institution last September, he has given his time to the study of law after office hours during the past year, discontinuing this study that he might enter the nation's service.

Mr. Simpson eagerly sought training with the officers reserve although he is a man of family. He is a graduate of Flint high school and attended Beloit College three years. His service with the Michigan State Telephone Company began in April, 1916, when he joined the commercial department as a clerk. He made good and was chief commercial agent when he left to take up military training.



CLYDE F. SIMP-  
SON

H. B. Crump is the third representative of the Detroit commercial department at Fort Sheridan. He is a native of Nashville, Tenn., and entered the employ of the Bell company there in 1909 when he secured a position with the Cumberland Telephone and Telegraph Company. He took his college work at Vanderbilt, where he was active in athletics, playing left end on the varsity football team for two years.



HOWARD B. CRUMP.

Since May, 1916, he has been employed as a clerk by the Detroit commercial office.

Adolph Anselmi, another Detroit commercial man at Fort Sheridan, has been connected with the Detroit office only since last January. Since that time he has been doing commercial estimate work. His first position with the company was in the Detroit commercial office, which he entered about a year ago. Last fall he joined the canvassing squad at Saginaw, where he did very good work. He took his college course at Clark College, Worcester, Mass., graduating there in 1913.

Frank W. Sheehy, commercial agent in charge of the canvass at Saginaw, left May 10th for Fort Sheridan. Mr. Sheehy was well known in the Saginaw district. Under his leadership the agents of the company at Saginaw have produced extraordinary results.



FRANK W. SHEEHY.

The embryo officer is well qualified for a commission in the United States army. He is athletic and possesses an education which will be of much assistance to him in his military training.

Mr. Sheehy was graduated from the University of Michigan in June, 1915. At the university he was prominent in the athletic and social world at the institution. For three years he was a member of the "varsity" baseball team.

D. H. Brush, Jr., supervisor of motor equipment at Detroit, is representing the plant department at Fort Sheridan. He received a summons to report May 17th and left as quickly as possible for camp. Mr. Brush came to Detroit about a year ago, leaving at the time a position as division superintendent for the People Gas Light & Coke Company at Chicago.



D. H. BRUSH, JR.

He is a graduate of the engineering department, University of Illinois, class of 1904.

## Accident at St. Clair Makes Heavy Traffic

Telephone operators at St. Clair rendered splendid service June 11th when a head-on collision between two interurban cars was reported at Barrow's switch, just north of the St. Clair city limits. Many had been seriously injured and the telephone operators were asked to assist in rushing doctors and nurses to the scene of the accident.

Miss Campbell, chief operator, directed the work. Calls were sent to all physicians in the surrounding country. With the aid of the Misses Mussman, Fashbender and Baldwin at the boards, Miss Campbell was able to work most effectively. When the night operators, the Misses Fulton, Roudeau and Pelerin, reported for duty many calls were still being made, so that the entire force at St. Clair had an opportunity to demonstrate its efficiency.

Manager Tucker reports that the exchange handled 150 outgoing long-distance calls between 2:45 and 9:30 p. m. and that the night operators were equally busy handling toll calls. In addition to this the number of local calls was unusually large, the greatest probably in the history of the exchange.

Physicians and business men congratulated Manager Tucker on the efficiency shown by the St. Clair operators in this emergency. All declared that the good work of the operators was of material assistance in bringing relief to the injured.

11-

### News of the Boys in Khaki

Alfons M. Roth, clerk in the office of George R. Heywood, division commercial superintendent, state division, Michigan State Telephone Company, landed a berth in the medical corps and expects to be among the first to see active service in France. Unable to get into the signal corps because of defective vision, Mr. Roth next offered his services to the medical corps. He left Detroit May 19th for Columbus, Ohio, where he was assigned to duty.

Mindful of the wish of his former associates in Detroit to hear from him, he wrote as follows under date of May 21st: "Arrived here Saturday evening. We all had to submit to another physical examination yesterday and those that passed were then inoculated against typhoid. Consequently I am nursing a sore arm.

"We drilled most of the morning, but are resting this afternoon and glad of it. I am now learning the significance of 'right dress, forward march,' etc. We have a sergeant who believes that promptness is a virtue especially to be desired in 'rookies.' Consequently, we move quickly, if faultily at times.

"Ten of us are assigned to each tent. We have a cot, three blankets and a strong inclination to sleep when taps sound. We have all received our uniforms (they had one to fit me) and I expect our equipment will be issued to us shortly. (NOTE—Mr. Roth is six feet five inches tall.)

"I like the work. The 'grub' is very good (we even have strawberries) and our quarters are all right. So I guess there is nothing to kick about.

"I would appreciate it if you would send me the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS each month, as I would like to keep in touch with things."

Benjamin Smith, cableman's helper at Pontiac, answered the country's call to service by joining the United States signal corps. He has gone to Columbus, Ohio, where he expected to be assigned to a division of the regular army.

Seven men from the office of the equipment superintendent at Detroit have entered the active service. Four are now with the United States navy, two with the signal corps and one with the army. Those who have entered the navy are Martin A. Crawford, switchboardman at the Hemlock office; Earl J. Lloyd, installer; P. Crossmeyer, installer's helper; Sterling C. Smith, installer. Howard C. Alexander, installer's helper, has entered the army. Those who have joined the signal corps are Thomas A. Courser, student switchboardman at the East office, and Raymond B. Miller, switchboardman at Ridge.

Wilbur S. Ashman, switchboardman at Benton Harbor, and Arthur C. Sewell, testman at Houghton, are now serving —M



ALFONS M. ROTH.

with the Michigan naval reserve, which was mobilized April 7th.

A letter to Henry Dakin, equipment superintendent, from Thomas Courser, formerly a switchboardman at the East office, states that he is now stationed at San Antonio, Texas.

Mr. Courser joined the signal corps several months ago and has now entered the aviation branch of the service, according to his letter. He is with Company D of the aviation squadron and is expecting to take the examination for first lieutenant in the aviation corps.

He also advises that R. B. Miller, who enlisted in the signal corps at the same time, is now at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. He is the head telephone man at the fort and is doing well, says Mr. Courser, "thanks to his Bell training."



BENJAMIN SMITH.

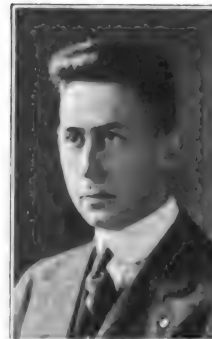
Russell Alexander, formerly night operator at the Clare exchange, has left the service of the company for the field now offered in the United States army. He is a member of the Thirteenth Infantry, Company B, located at Eagle Pass, Texas. By the appearance of the accompanying photograph, he seems primed to strike terror to the heart of any enemy that confronts him. This young defender of the rights of Uncle Sam says he will return to the employ of the Michigan State



RUSSELL ALEXANDER

just as soon as he has completed his term of service in his country's cause. Carl Leis has succeeded him as night operator at Clare.

The war cost Mr. Heywood the loss of another good man in the person of George T. Jeffers, commercial agent. Mr. Jeffers enlisted in the engineers' reserve corps May 10th and left the company May 24th, expecting to be called into active service shortly. He will be among the first to see service in France.



G. T. JEFFERS

Mr. Jeffers has been with the company since December 1, 1911, when he became bookkeeper in the office of Mr. Welch, then commercial superintendent. As chief clerk to Mr. Scott of the eastern district, he established a wide acquaintanceship in and around Detroit. Since November 1, 1916, he has been connected with Mr. Heywood's office. He is popularly known as "Jeff" by his many friends, who wish him Godspeed and good luck.

The cavalry branch of the service secured a recruit from the office of the plant accountant. George Gignac, a clerk on Mr. Madsen's staff, responded to the call for volunteers by enlisting with the mounted troops. He is only nineteen years old. He was assigned to Troop I of the Seventh Cavalry and is now doing duty along the Mexican border. He has been with the telephone company for four years, starting as an office boy. Mr. Gignac's friends are certain that as a soldier he will reflect credit on the whole telephone organization.



GEORGE GIGNAC.



## Laying Submarine Cable to Harsen Island

By C. C. FAILING  
District Manager, Port Huron

In laying a new submarine cable between Algonac and Harsen Island on May 5th, the plant department disposed of a problem which has been giving considerable trouble ever since service was interrupted last fall.

On October 16, 1916, a large boat was blown ashore at Point aux Chenes, below Algonac. When the boat was pulled free from the bank, it was found that our cable had been picked up by the boat anchor which had been thrown out in an attempt to keep the boat from the shore, and pulled from its fastenings on the Main Land end. In towing the boat into the stream, our cable was carried into water averaging approximately ninety feet in depth. After nearly two days spent in an attempt to locate the cable by dragging, it was decided to pick up the Island end and under run it. This could only be accomplished for a distance of three hundred feet, or to a point where the water suddenly increases in depth from about fifteen feet to seventy-five feet. It is thought that an old wreck of some kind had lodged on our cable as it was impossible to raise it beyond this point. We decided to cut the submarine cable and splice a twenty-five-pair lead, armored, to restore service temporarily. This was done, using 1,400 feet, and service was restored on October 20th.

In the latter part of November when ice formed in the river the lead cable was put out of commission. Service was restored this time by placing No. 17 copper clad over the ice. By this method we were able to furnish service until about the twentieth of March when the ice moved out of the river. Manager R. P. Teeters succeeded in saving the copper clad, having safely coiled the wire about six hours before the ice moved.

As soon as it was found impossible to recover the old cable an estimate was prepared for a new one hundred-pair armored cable. This was successfully laid under the direction of State Construction Superintendent Evans on May 5th.

A trench was dredged in the channel bank on each side of the river, the work being done by the Sullivan-Dunbar Dredging Company, of Detroit, with the large dredge *Handy Andy*. Construction Foreman Maloney and District Foreman Coleman assisted Mr. Evans in the work of dredging and the laying of the cable.

The submarine cable was over 1,900 feet in length—a one hundred-pair twenty-two-gauge. This cable, which had been shipped from Chicago to Detroit, was loaded on a large dump scow which was towed to Algonac. The cable weighed over six tons.

All was ready at about noon on the eighth and at one o'clock the start was made. Owing to the depth of the water in the channel and the strong current at that point, it was estimated that from two to three hundred feet of cable would be carried down stream. However, owing to the good work of the construction superintendent and foreman in charge, and with the cooperation of the captain of the fleet, the cable was laid in nearly a straight line, not to exceed fifty feet being taken by the current. The cable was placed in the river in about fifteen minutes from the time that the start was made, and was a smooth piece of work.

The splicers finished work on May 9th and St. Clair Flats subscribers are now securing their usual good service.

Division Plant Superintendent Marsh and Toll Superintendent Russell witnessed the laying of the cable and were given a fast ride from Algonac to the job and return by one of Chris Smith's fast power boats.

### Improvements at Bay City

The following is taken from the Bay City *Times-Tribune* of May 3rd:

"The Michigan State Telephone Company, which has spent upwards of \$150,000 in improvements to its system here during the past few months, has just made an additional appropriation of \$23,700 for the purpose of increasing the switchboard capacity of the local plant, in order to meet the demand being made upon it for telephone connections. The new switchboards will provide a capacity of 1,220 additional telephones."

### Ball Team at Kalamazoo

A baseball league of local manufacturing and business houses was recently organized at Kalamazoo. The league is divided into two sections, eighteen in each section.

The Michigan State Telephone Company employes organized a team and entered that part of the league known as the City Commercial League. A large force from the construction department is working in Kalamazoo and the team was picked from both the construction and maintenance forces.



KALAMAZOO BALL TEAM.  
Lower row, left to right—R. Walters, 2B; W. Walters, CF; T. Kersten, P; R. Amsterburg, RF.  
Upper row, left to right—A. Weese, 1B; S. O'Brien, 3B; C. Cole, C; P. Merriem, P; A. Burton, S; George Waldo, LF.  
Standing, H. E. Martin, manager.

The other teams in the league have been in existence for the past two or three years, but this is the first year the telephone company has had a team and so far the boys have given a good account of themselves. At the present writing they stand next to the top of the league, having won five out of six games played.

The games start between five and six o'clock and run five innings.

### Strenuous Traffic at the Soo

On the morning of May 16th the Soo exchange encountered a traffic condition that tested the operating force to the limit. At about 8:15 a terrific explosion was heard. It shook buildings, broke windows and almost created a panic. Immediately after the explosion a call for doctors was sent in by telephone and Miss Gerrie, chief operator, surmising that something serious had happened, complied with the request and began summoning doctors to go to the scene of the accident. From this time on the traffic load kept increasing. Extra operators were called and still it seemed impossible to handle the traffic. It was a strenuous time for the operators and they are deserving of a great deal of commendation for the manner in which they handled the work.

Due to strict guard being kept at the locks by reason of their importance to the government at this time, the first supposition was that either the locks or the U. S. coast guard cutter *Mackinac* had been blown up.

The accident, whereby four men were killed and four others so seriously injured as to make their recovery doubtful, was caused by the explosion of part of five boxes of torpedo caps which were being unloaded at Brady pier to be dumped into the river. The explosion also tore up the pole carrying the wires to the U. S. coast guard and men from the plant department were at once dispatched to the scene so that service was temporarily reestablished in a very short time.

The following appears in the *Soo Evening News* as a part of the account of the accident:

"For two hours after the explosion the Michigan State Telephone exchange broke all records for the number of calls received. Extra operators were rushed into service, calls were routed via supervisors and all other steps to speed service were taken."

### New Manager at Albion

P. H. Wheeler has succeeded O. R. Angell as manager at Albion, the latter having resigned recently. Mr. Wheeler has been connected with the Michigan State Telephone Company for the last five years. He has been in the telephone business the past nine years. Before going to Albion Mr. Wheeler was employed in the engineering department at Detroit. The change became effective June 9th.

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## Bell Telephone Gardening Association

### Use the Hoe

Now that hot weather is coming on don't let it wilt your patriotism. Planting your garden is a small part of your work. If you are a slacker now much of your earlier effort will be of little avail; if you stay by it you will find it both profitable and enjoyable. Fresh green things on the table in summer are health restorers and shelves of home canned vegetables in the cellar will make you laugh at the H. C. of L. next winter.

Use the hoe often and well so the surface soil will be loose and fine. At first the tiny rootlets are near the surface so hoe lightly. A good gardener never permits the soil to become hard or even to form the slightest crust. Stirring allows the entrance of air, which is necessary for the chemical and bacterial changes that must take place; it destroys the tiny weeds which would otherwise take food from the plants, and it conserves the moisture supply. As soon as a rain packs the ground a crust is formed over the surface. This crust not only restricts plant growth but it prevents the entrance of air and helps the evaporation of moisture by opening up the little passageways to the surface. Stirring the soil after each rain stops this water evaporation and allows the air to enter.

Weeds rob the other plants of a large amount of soil water as well as plant food. For instance, to produce one pound of pig weed or Russian thistle, it takes 322 pounds of water from the soil. This same amount of water would have made three-fourths of a pound of potatoes or nearly a pound of sugar beets. If an acre of land is covered with sunflowers it will lose in a season, through these plants, 392,040 gallons of water. This much water would be enough to irrigate an acre of alfalfa through the season, and alfalfa uses more water than practically any other farm crop. We cannot afford to let weeds waste the water so precious to our garden and field crops.

Let's be sticklers and use the hoe. A strong start in the spring means much for

a good supply of green stuff and careful attention later on will mature the crop at its best. A few hours with the hoe will save your garden from the hot rays of the mid-summer sun and turn loss to profit.—*Successful Gardening.*

### First Mid-Season Exhibition

The first vegetable and flower exhibition of the season will probably be held by the Bell Telephone Gardening Association Monday, July 30th, between the hours of



TOMATOES DE LUXE.

Picture of a Real Backyard Garden, Supplied by the Livingston Seed Company, Columbus, Ohio.

11 A. M. and 3 P. M., in the basement of the Bell Telephone Building, Chicago. V. Ray, chairman of the Exhibition committee, will be in charge, with the following committee: S. A. Rhodes, Lawrence F. Hill, D. C. Holloway, O. L. Halberg.

The judges will be professional gardeners, not in any way connected with the Bell company and will be entirely disinterested and unbiased in their rewards. Bulletin announcements will be made later regarding details for exhibitors and of prizes to be given.

It is expected that the vegetable and flower entries will prove that our labor with the hoe has not been in vain.

Photographic exhibits are solicited for the August number of the *News*. If any of your stuff is above ground, kodak it and let us have a "proof."

### Surplus Vegetables

As was announced early in the season, arrangements will be made for the disposition of surplus vegetables. Call Local 330 for information.

### Plants and Seeds

During the planting season, about 600 of the 962 members of the Gardening Association obtained plants from the hot beds, provided by the plants and seeds committee. It is conservatively estimated that a saving to the members of more than \$200 was thus effected.

The following plants were distributed:

	Dozen
Cabbages (early).....	200
Cabbages (late).....	150
Cabbages (red).....	150
Cauliflower .....	200
Endive .....	250
Kohlrabi .....	250
Celery, plume .....	250
Head Lettuce .....	250

Purchases of seeds from the plant and seeds committee amounted to \$577, with a saving to the members of about \$144. There were 352 purchases made, the average amount being \$1.64. The smallest being fifteen cents and the largest \$23.

### Not Too Late

While the Gardening Association now has 962 members, the goal is still 1,000 or more, and those who care to enroll still have the opportunity of availing themselves of the Association's advantages.

To become a member call H. I. Thomas, Official 300, Local 726. He will issue you a card, entitling you to the privileges of the Association.

### Save All Surplus Vegetables

If your garden at any time produces more than you can use immediately, do not allow the surplus to spoil.

Can surplus beans, peas, corn, tomatoes, beets, spinach, pumpkin and squash for winter use.

Every can of vegetables or fruits, and every jar of preserved food means that

you have saved food materials that would have otherwise been wasted.

Can or store root crops, cabbage and other vegetables properly so that they will keep well and supply you with food when the garden ceases to produce.

### Learn How to Can Vegetables

The International Harvester Company has for free distribution a publication entitled "Home Canning by the Cold Pack Method." A post card addressed to them, care Agricultural Extension Department, Harvester Building, Chicago, will bring you a copy.

The United States Department of Agriculture, States Relations Service, Washington, D. C., has printed bulletins which can be obtained by writing care Office of Extension Work, North and West. The bulletin numbers and titles are:

NR-21—Methods and Devices in Home Canning.

NR-25—Home Canning Instructions—Additional Recipes.

NR-29—Common Home Canning Difficulties.

NR-30—Recipes for Canned Vegetables; Their Preparation for Table Use.

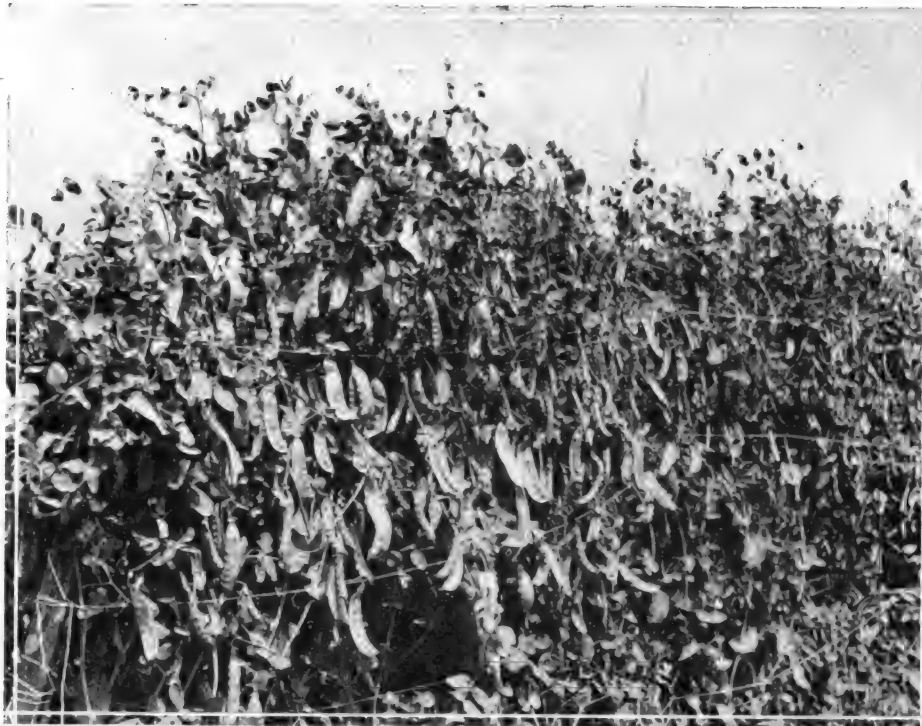
### What and When to Plant

A normal season would have simplified the gardener's problem of knowing what and when to plant, but the continued cool weather quite upset the usual schedule, leaving us to make the best of it. To those whose gardens have advanced sufficiently to warrant it, the following suggestions are made:

Start new crops between the rows of plants that are soon to be removed.

Clear the garden of early crops and prepare for succeeding ones.

As fast as the ground is cleared of



HERE IS SOME PEA PATCH.

—Photograph by courtesy of Livingston Seed Company, Columbus, Ohio.

one crop start a new crop.

Plant out late cauliflowers, cabbages and peppers.

Plant tomatoes on the discarded strawberry patch (if you had one).

Set celery for main and late crops.

Sow seed of winter radish, early beet for winter, rutabagas, turnips, last of month kale and spinach.

See that your garden toward fall is full of potatoes, beets, turnips, cabbage and other staple foods that can be stored for the winter.

Gather onion sets and early potatoes.

### A Candidate for the "Leather Medal"

"We left the camp and headed up the river for Rice Lake, to try for Bass, and

were pulling leisurely along the middle of the stream with about twenty-five yards of line out, carrying a big Muskie spoon, when —BAM!—we struck a snag, or thought that we had momentarily, until a Muskie, which looked to be about six feet long, broke water and described a graceful arch fully three feet above the surface. As he took the water again he shook his head viciously a few times, then seemed to recall suddenly an important engagement and started off down the stream like a shot.

"As we had only one hundred yards of line on the reel, this method of warfare bid fair to result in victory for General Muskie. We were using a ten-ounce, three and one-half-foot steel rod, and it looked as though we must test the line to its fullest capacity then and there or lose the fish, so he was given the butt, and the reel checked almost to a standstill. To our delight and relief there was a flash of a let-up on the strain, and Mr. Muskie shot out of the water, turning a complete back somersault, and as he hit the water again, began a new line of aggression. He went to the bottom and sulked for fully five minutes. We finally got him started again, but he was practically under control, well hooked, and within fifteen minutes was brought to the gaff. He weighed twenty-four and one-half pounds."

This letter was picked up near the desk of one of the Izaak Waltons of the building department, and when we asked him when and where it was that he caught a twenty-four and one-half pound Muskie, he laughed, and said that he was practicing for a story which he hoped to have for the News when he got back from his trip to Manitowish Waters in July. We shall be glad to give the result of the trip



## Of Interest to Our Girls

Conducted by Mrs. F. E. Dewhurst

### Have You Registered? Are You Ready to Be Drafted in the Service of Your Country?

Perhaps you girls think this question is on the wrong page of the News, for what has registration to do with our girls? Our brothers and friends, you say, have registered and many have volunteered and are now wearing the uniform; but what have we to do with registering for military service? Let me tell you a story of something which happened in Chicago a few days ago:

"About 2:30 a. m. June 22d the officer in charge of the troops on guard at a certain place called in and told the operator who answered his line that he had a long list of calls to make, as an urgent order from Washington necessitated getting all of the men in that particular military organization into camp.

"At seven o'clock this morning this officer called in and informed the chief operator that he was highly pleased with the service that he had received and added: 'THAT OPERATOR HAS DONE AS MUCH FOR HER COUNTRY AS IF SHE HAD LED A REGIMENT IN BATTLE.'"

Suppose that operator had not registered for service that night! She would have lost the opportunity to do a piece of real service for her country. She was not wearing a khaki uniform but doubtless she was giving a greater service than her brother or friend were yet prepared to give. The telephone girl's training for service has made her fit to be of use at a moment's notice.

And all over the country our army of girls are there on the line ready to move the troops or rally the forces at the signal from Washington. We speak of the fighting line—and it's a long way from the quiet office where girls are sitting watching the boards; but the telephone line which she is guarding is a most strategic posi-

tion and in her hands are the weapons of national defense.

The telephone girl does not need to join the Woman's League for National Defense, nor to go to the field in Red Cross service; she is already trained for the best of service—and she is needed where she is, *on the line*.

Here on this page is one of our patriots—her's is no registration day—it is *every* day. She is ready to be counted ready to

Have you registered, girls? Doesn't it give you a *real* thrill to think you are of so much use, and aren't you proud of the great Bell Telephone Company that can help the country now in this wonderful way?

In a letter from George O. Squier, Brigadier General, Chief Signal Officer of the Army, written to Frank H. Bethell, he says the service furnished by our company will be of the greatest importance.

He says:

"That men and women now engaged in providing this all important service can serve their country in no better way than by sticking to their posts."

So "stick to your post"—keep alert every moment of the day and night on this telephone line of Universal Service and it will be true that the great unseen army of girls will serve the country as no other army can and they will aid our soldier boys at the front and be working with them in a splendid way.

### Quite Right

The budding authoress had purchased a typewriter, and one morning the agent called and asked:

"How do you like your new machine, madam?"

"It's wonderful!" was the enthusiastic reply. "I wonder how I ever did my writing without it."

"Would you mind," asked the agent, "giving me a little testimonial to that effect?"

"Certainly not," she responded. "I'll do it gladly."

Seating herself at the machine, she pounded out the following:

"Aafteb Using thee Automatid Back-action atype write, er for thre emonth%an d Over, I unhesittattingly pronoun ce it tobe al ad more than th e Manufacturss claim! for it, Durinb the tim e been in myy possession \$1 thre month it had more th an paid for its\*f in thee saVing off tim e andD laborr!"—*Everybody's Magazine*.



THE BELL OPERATOR REGISTERS FOR SERVICE EVERY DAY.

give her life every day for her country. She will not be a "slacker," no slight excuse will keep her from registration every day.

Just now when every board is busy, when calls of deepest significance may be handled, she is going to be there. Day and night, every moment the noble army of telephone girls will be alert, earnest, faithful, guarding the country they love, glad that they have been training for such a time as this.



# WHY WE ARE IN THIS WAR

## National Doctrines Contrasted

By A. T. IRWIN

### American Ideals

"We hold these truths to be self evident—that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."—*Declaration of Independence, adopted by Continental Congress, July 4, 1776.*

"That this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."—*Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg, November 19, 1863.*

"He who loves the bristle of bayonets only sees in the glitter what beforehand he feels in his heart. It is avarice and hatred."—*Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

"The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time."—*Thomas Jefferson.*

"The law of humanity must reign over the assertion of all human rights."—*William Ellery Channing.*

"A treaty is the promise of a nation."—*Fisher Ames, speech, April 28, 1796.*

"Let us have peace."—*Ulysses S. Grant.*

"America holds out an example a thousand times more encouraging than was ever presented before to those nine-tenths of the human race who are born without hereditary fortune or hereditary rank."—*Daniel Webster at Bunker Hill Monument, June 17, 1843.*

"Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"—*Patrick Henry.*

"Governments exist to protect the rights of minorities."—*Wendell Phillips.*

"The basis of our political systems is the right of the people to make and to alter the constitutions of government."—*George Washington, in his Farewell Address.*

"Let us have faith that right makes might and in that faith let us dare to do our duty as we understand it."—*Abraham Lincoln.*

"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."—*Benjamin Franklin.*

"The world must be made safe for democracy."—*Woodrow Wilson, message to Congress, April 2, 1917.*

### German "Kultur"

"Only one master in the Empire, and I am that one; I will tolerate no other. You must all have one will, and that is my will. There is only one law, and that is my law."—*Emperor William, in a speech to the Potsdam recruits.*

"The spirit of God has descended upon me because I am the German emperor. I am the instrument of the Most High, I am His sword. Death to the infidel who denies my mission. Let the enemies of the German nation perish—God demands their destruction—God, who by my mouth summons you to carry out His decrees."—*Emperor William, in a proclamation to his army.*

"The efforts directed towards the abolition of war must not only be termed foolish, but absolutely immoral, and must be stigmatized as unworthy of the human race. . . . The weak nation is to have the same right to live as the powerful and vigorous nation! The whole idea represents a presumptuous encroachment on natural laws of development."—*General Von Bernhardt, "Germany and the Next War."*

"We count ourselves among the conquerors; we ponder over the need of a new order of things, even of a new slavery—for every strengthening and elevation of the type 'man' also involves a new form of slavery."—*Friedrich Nietzsche, "The Joyous Wisdom."*

"Ye say it is a good cause which halloweth every war? I say unto you, it is the good war which halloweth every cause."—*Friedrich Nietzsche, "War and Warriors."*

"Every sovereign state has the undoubted right to declare war at its pleasure and is consequently entitled to repudiate its treaties."—*H. Von Treitschke.*

"Ye shall love peace as a means to new wars—and the short peace more than the long."—*Friedrich Nietzsche, "War and Warriors."*

"Germany is chosen, for her good and that of other nations, to undertake their guidance. Providence has placed the appointed people, at the appointed moment, ready for the appointed task."—*H. S. Chamberlain, "Political Ideals."*

"Thus alone can the over-population of the earth be controlled: The efficient peoples must secure themselves elbow-room by means of war, and the inefficient must be hemmed in and at last driven into reserves where they have no room to grow . . . and where, discouraged and rendered indifferent to the future by the spectacle of the superior energy of their conquerors, they may crawl slowly toward the peaceful death of weary and hopeless senility."—*K. Wagner, "War."*

"The German people must rise as a master-folk above the inferior peoples of Europe."—*"Great Germany and Middle Europe in 1950," by a Pan German.*

"Must Kultur rear its domes over mountains of corpses, oceans of tears, and the death-rattle of the conquered? Yes, it must."—*K. A. Kuhn, in "The True Causes of the World War."*

"Might is the supreme right, and the dispute as to what is right is decided by the arbitrament of war."—*General Von Bernhardt, "Germany and the Next War."*

"The German people is always right because it is the German people."—*Otto Richard Tannenberg.*

"For the will of the state no other principle exists but that of expediency."—*Rudolph Theuden, "What Must the War Bring Us?"*

"Germany is the center of God's plans for the world."—*Pastor W. Lehmann.*

## Signal Corps Organization Completed

**Sixth Telegraph Battalion Formed by Central Group Telephone Employees Ready for Uncle Sam's Service on a Moment's Notice**

The Sixth Telegraph Battalion, the first of two to be recruited from the ranks of the Bell telephone organization of the Central Group of Companies, is now ready for Uncle Sam's service. The officers have received their commissions and assignment of officers to the two companies has been made. Drills have started and the men are rapidly perfecting themselves in the knowledge of their important duties.

Major John R. Turner, in civil life plant engineer for the Chicago Telephone Company, is in command of the Sixth Battalion. Captain Leroy B. Boylan is at the head of one of the companies. The second captaincy has not been assigned definitely, but it is expected that Richard E. Walsh, of Chicago, will receive the commission.

In the complete roster of the battalion with the company assignments, printed in connection with this article will be found some names of men not connected with the telephone organization. These are men enlisted by the government as expert

telegraphers and assigned to Major Turner's battalion. Expert telegraphers form a very important part of the signal corps and these of course could not be found in the telephone organization.

All of the officers and men are at this writing in the reserves, but have been accepted and are liable to be called into active service at any moment. The officers are working hard to get the battalion into such shape that it will require a minimum amount of additional training when the call comes.

The Bell Companies of the Central Group and their employes have every reason to be proud of this magnificent organization. Every man is a volunteer and has entered the service with a full knowledge and appreciation of what his services will mean to his country. The officers have been selected with great care and with a view solely to their fitness. The same rule will be followed in the appointment of non-commissioned officers, when this is done, a little later. As an example of this policy

may be mentioned the commissioning of First Lieutenant J. A. Brock of Chicago. Lieutenant Brock for several years has been in charge of the lunch rooms of the Chicago Telephone Company and in his new duties will be the supply officer of the battalion. Lieutenant Brock's well known ability is a guaranty that the men of the Sixth will be scientifically as well as adequately nourished.

The first public appearance of any part of the battalion was made at an entertainment at Medinah Temple, Chicago, June 30th, when the officers and enlisted men of Company D attended an entertainment given for their benefit. A large number of their friends and well-wishers gathered at the Temple, enjoyed a splendid vaudeville program and later danced to the inspiring music of the Bell Telephone Orchestra. The men realized a substantial sum for their company treasury. This fund will be used to supply comforts and conveniences for the men which are not included in the



LINEMEN OF THE BATTLEFIELD.

A British wiring party going over a shell swept area on their way to string a line. Instead of poles long iron rods with corkscrew ends are used. In the background can be seen the remnants of a forest. The once thickly foliaged trees are nothing but shattered stumps. The ground the men are traversing was probably once a fertile farm; now it is nothing but devastated territory.



Wm. E. Goss  
Rapid City, Mich.



R. W. Harper  
Detroit



R. H. Eastland  
Chicago



N. L. Reeser  
Chicago



G. J. Klitz  
Detroit



G. H. Thiell  
Flint, Mich.



W. Heinzelman  
Grand Rapids, Mich.



L. S. Loos  
Milwaukee, Wis.



R. Conner  
Milwaukee, Wis.



O. H. Engelhardt  
Milwaukee, Wis.



P. Fietche  
Milwaukee, Wis.



L. P. Miller  
Green Bay, Wis.



D. C. Cottrell  
New London, Wis.



R. H. Hoffman  
Marinette, Wis.



F. Kienitz  
Princeton, Wis.



R. C. Miller  
Green Bay, Wis.



E. S. Banaski  
Milwaukee, Wis.



R. A. Reeser  
Madison, Wis.



H. W. Poelmann  
Madison, Wis.



R. Lyons  
Eau Claire, Wis.



G. Yackels  
Ft. Atkinson, Wis.



Lyle L. Reynolds  
Ashland, Wis.



A. Rasmussen  
Milwaukee, Wis.



R. McCurdy  
Green Bay, Wis.



Walter Koerner  
Appleton, Wis.



J. F. Schafer  
Pt. Washington, Wis.



W. Gruber  
Milwaukee, Wis.



O. H. Pratt  
Milwaukee, Wis.



L. W. Roberts  
Madison, Wis.



C. G. Walker  
Appleton, Wis.



J. H. Schmitz  
Milwaukee, Wis.



W. Fitzpatrick  
Madison, Wis.



H. S. Verwey  
Neenah, Wis.



B. H. Hull  
Ashland, Wis.



H. McEvoy  
Milwaukee, Wis.



R. J. Meverden  
Green Bay, Wis.



T. Caffrey  
Milwaukee, Wis.



J. Diamond  
Milwaukee, Wis.



R. Wahlen  
Milwaukee, Wis.



A. Stumpf  
Milwaukee, Wis.



P. Banaski  
Milwaukee, Wis.



W. G. Plenty  
Hudson, Wis.



E. D. Felch  
Milwaukee, Wis.



E. W. Pedley  
Darlington, Wis.



W. H. Corcoran  
Fond du Lac, Wis.



O. Kreiter  
Milwaukee, Wis.



Fred Lange  
Milwaukee, Wis.



R. Horton  
Milwaukee, Wis.



R. L. Brown  
Milwaukee, Wis.

regular equipment provided by the government.

Major Turner is hard at work completing final details for the organization of the second battalion, which is being recruited from Central Group employes. This battalion will be made up of one company from Cleveland and Michigan and one company from Chicago. At this writing this battalion is about ninety per cent. complete. A complete roster of the personnel of this battalion will be printed in the August issue of this publication if the organization has progressed far enough at that time. Additional enlisted men, whose names are published elsewhere, will make up the two companies of the battalion, the official designation of which has not yet been decided on.

Since the publication of the list of commissioned officers in the June number of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS, commissions have been received by the following:

First Lieutenant Paul Kenny, facility engineer, Chicago Telephone Company.

First Lieutenant J. G. Borden, exchange manager Oconomowoc, Wisconsin Telephone Company.

First Lieutenant H. E. Wightman, engineer inspector, Chicago Telephone Company.

First Lieutenant J. A. Brock, manager commissary, Chicago Telephone Company.

First Lieutenant C. D. Hoover, equip-

ment engineer, Chicago Telephone Company.

First Lieutenant W. G. Cole, facility engineer, Michigan State Telephone Company.

Below is a complete roster of the officers and men of the Sixth Battalion.

#### SIXTH TELEGRAPH BATTALION, S. R. C.

Major John R. Turner, Signal Corps, U. S. R., Commanding.

First Lieut. Paul Kenny, Signal Corps, U. S. R., Adjutant.

First Lieut. Jas. A. Brock, Signal Corps, U. S. R., Supply Officer.

#### Headquarters Detachment

##### *Privates.*

Berry, Jos. A.  
Crowell, Harry D.  
Shollar, Jas. M.  
Sir, Arthur.

#### Battalion Supply Detachment

##### *Privates.*

Kannenberg, Harold L.  
McNiel, Ralph G.  
Meeboer, Raymond H.  
Stanke, Jos.  
Sturtz, Wm. J.

#### Company "D" 6th Telegraph Battalion United States Reserve

Captain L. B. Boylan, Signal Corps, U. S. R.

First Lieut. C. D. Hoover, Signal Corps, U. S. R.

First Lieut. Newhall Helmer, Signal Corps, U. S. R.

##### *Master Signal Electricians.*

Farrell, Guy C.

##### *Sergeant.*

Freeman, Ray W.

##### *Corporals.*

Foster, Clyde.

Harrington, Stephen W.

##### *Privates.*

Allen, Charles  
Allen, Vincent H.  
Ambrosine, Jas. H.  
Andersen, Arthur  
Anderson, Martin  
Ayres, Rudolph J.  
Bacigalupe, Arthur  
Bailey, Melville D.  
Ballard, Herbert L.  
Behnke, Homer  
Boyce, Albert G.  
Brokaw, Eugene C.  
Broaddus, John R.  
Brooks, Arthur W.  
Brown, Dwight  
Buehrle, William  
Burke, Thomas J.  
Call, William  
Carney, Martin  
Case, Clarence A.  
Caughey, Thos. A.



TYPICAL ACTIVITIES OF SIGNAL CORPS IN UNITED STATES ARMY.

—Photograph by International Film Service.





Claude Wardell  
Chicago



Wm. Markwordt  
Chicago



A. Nolinaki  
Milwaukee, Wis.



R. H. Hawkins  
Chicago



K. Saree  
Waukesha, Wis.



Geo. A. Reed  
Chicago



R. G. Hardgrave  
Fond du Lac, Wis.



H. Jackson  
Chicago



F. W. Rogers  
Chicago



C. Hanzi  
Detroit



H. Collins  
Chicago



H. L. Kannenberg  
Milwaukee, Wis.



H. J. Heffron  
Chicago



W. H. Rough  
Chicago

Cook, Harry C.  
Cooke, Wilbur  
Corcoran, Thos.  
Dickie, John  
Dinkelacker, Chas. H.  
Dockum, Edward E.  
Dore, Edward  
Duke, John F. S.  
Eckley, Walter W.  
Einwalter, Fred  
Elliott, Charles  
Eviston, Thos. J.  
Finnelly, Oliver J.  
Ford, Wm. R.  
Garvey, Hewitt  
Gill, John T.  
Gillespie, Chester W.  
Greene, Wm.  
Gregson, Albert E.  
Haeefe, Levi C.  
Haglund, Walter A.  
Hansen, Henry  
Hardin, William D.  
Hathaway, Harry J.  
Hasseler, C. A.  
Heeney, Frank J.  
Herx, Fred C.  
Johnson, Carl A.  
Johnson, Harold  
Johnson, Reginald E.  
Kahler, Marcel  
Kasper, Victor  
Kilbride, Matthias J.  
Kloppman, Otto  
Kucera, Charles L.  
Larkin, Jos. F.  
Larsen, Robert  
Lian, Norman  
Luckow, Lincoln W.  
Malone, E. P.  
Matlock, Jr., Robt. C.  
McCament, Lon  
McGlinchy, John  
McKenzie, Floyd  
Moody, Wm. E.  
Morehouse, Edw. E.  
Nasman, John A.  
Nelson, Raymond J.  
Olsen, Otto  
Overcash, Clarence  
Parenti, Albert

Pitts, Melvin S.  
Poggi, Charles, Jr.  
Rice, George E.  
Rand, Robert G.  
Reichert, C. H.  
Reilly, James  
Smith, Charles  
Smith, John J.  
Swanson, Peter M.  
Storer, Lewis G.  
Stubbs, John H.  
Taglere, Frank A.  
Taylor, Allen R.  
Thelen, Bernard  
Thorpe, William H.  
Tone, George J.  
Totzke, Charles  
Vilter, Fred J.  
Walde, Earl  
Walker, Benj. T.  
Watterson, Mark C.  
Wilmot, Merrill  
Willard, Clifford G.  
Work, Harry



R. T. McCOMAS.  
Michigan Plant Supervisor recommended  
for commission.

#### Company "E" Sixth Telegraph Battalion United States Reserve

Captain (not yet chosen).

First Lieut. Daniel E. Moore, Signal  
Corps, U. S. R.

First Lieut. Harry E. Wightman, Sig-  
nal Corps, U. S. R.

Master Signal Electricians.

Wentworth, C. O.

Sergeant First Class.

Mock, Earl J.

Schideler, Ernest H.

Corporals.

Lackey, John S.

Privates.

Asmus, Robert S.  
Anderson, S. C.  
Anderson, Ansgar A.  
Banaski, Edmund S.  
Burns, F. W.  
Banaski, Peter, Jr.  
Bartness, Carl  
Barry, Joseph  
Brown, Roger L.  
Carlock, Fred W.  
Caffrey, Fred  
Caffrey, Thomas H.  
Christensen, Armour  
Caron, Oscar J.  
Christie, Alex  
Conlin, John B.  
Conner, Robt. A.  
Corcoran, Wm. H.  
Cottrell, Dana C.  
Crosby, Floyd  
Diamond, Jesse E.  
Engelhardt, Otto H.  
Felch, Estel D.  
Finerty, George  
Fitzpatrick W. M.  
Gruber, Walter  
Grenel, Herbert  
Goodin, Arthur J.  
Garner, L. V.  
Hagensick, Byron L.  
Hardgrove, R. G.  
Hoffman, John J.  
Huffman, C. C.  
Helmerich, Lloyd S.  
Hartman, Jno. F.  
Hoffman, R. H.

Horton, Roy  
Howard, John J.  
Hull, Bernard H.  
Jacobson, Stanley  
Kienitz, Fred. W.  
Klimt, James  
Koerner, Walter  
Kreiter, Oscar  
Kuzba, Leo  
Krueger, Emil A.  
Lange, Fred H.  
Leigh, Lester  
LeRoux, Hilary J.  
Lichtfuss, Frank  
Loos, Leslie S.  
Loring, Ray E.  
Lyon, Richard T.  
Moles, M. S.  
Madden, Edw. J. J.  
Merverden, Russell J.  
Miller, Benj. L.  
Miller, Raymond C.  
Miller, Ralph C.  
Miller, Leonard P.  
McQoon, C. R.  
McCurdy, Robert E.  
McEvoy, Herbert H.  
Nuehlberger, Otto R.  
Nolinski, August F.  
Noe, William E.  
Olson, Alvin  
Pedley, Edward W.  
Priske, George C.  
Plenty, William G.  
Pratt, Orman H.  
Poelman, H. W.  
Roberts, Lester W.  
Rasmussen, Arthur  
Reeser, Raymond A.  
Reid, William J.  
Reynolds, Lyle L.  
Rogers, Duane  
Schmitz, Joseph H.  
Savee, Kenneth A.  
Schafer, John F.  
Sebring, Harry W.  
Simons, Joseph  
Stouthamer, Roy F.  
Stumpf, Adolph  
Tempelman, Fred R.  
Thomas, Fred P.  
Tietsche, Paul  
Verwey, Henry D.  
Wilkinson, Frank C.  
Wahlen, Ray  
Walker, Carl G.  
Warne, Robert B.  
Webb, Clarence  
Yackels, Gale  
Zwadzich, Frank M.

### Enlistments in Signal Corps

#### CHICAGO TELEPHONE COMPANY.

The following employes of the Chicago Telephone Company have been enlisted in the Signal Reserve Corps, in addition to those whose names were listed in the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS for June:

Baumer, George A., equipment installer, Chicago.

Bogardus, Raphael Chas., switchboard installer, Chicago.

Day, Roy Joseph, clerk, Chicago.

Field, Caldwell Edward, clerk, Chicago.

Golden, Felix Louis, messenger, Chicago.

Galavan, Chas. Edward, telephone repairman, Hinsdale.

Goodwin, Will Rease, repairman, Glen-coe.

Hrack, Otto, equipment installer, Chicago.

Hausheer, Lorenz J., telephone repairman, Chicago.

Hesch, Joseph John, installer, Chicago.

Helsten, Roland Arthur, cable splicer's helper, LaGrange.

Kischell, Herbert B., adjustment clerk, Chicago.

Kukuk, Harold Darlin, switchboard repairman, Chicago.

Larson, Paul A., stockman, Chicago.

Lally, Cliff Spencer, lineman, Chicago.

Malinski, Benedict Leo, stockman, Chicago.

Miscovic, Joseph, groundman, construction dept., Chicago.

McIntosh, Stuart G., clerk, plant dept., Chicago.

Mooney, Joseph Edward, lineman, Chicago.

Mondt, Fred F., lineman, Chicago.

Oesterreich, Martin Carl, equipment installer, Chicago.

Lenfold, Walter Edward, cable splicer's helper, Chicago.

Roesen, Adolph, wireman for power and light, Chicago.

Rio, Anthony John, blue printing, Chicago.

Robertson, John Robert, journal entry clerk, Chicago.

Rush, Albert G., jumper man, Chicago.

Rush, Joseph Frank, lineman, Chicago.

Sobieski, William P., installer, Chicago.

Sorensen, John Irving, installer, Chicago.  
Slattery, Thomas J., garage man, Chicago.

Thilmont, Elmer Henry, asst. head clerk, acctg. dept., Chicago.

Thweatt, Caldwell Elliott, clerk, Chicago.

Wortman, Elmer F., cable helper, Chicago.

Wallin, Gus, lineman, Chicago.

Wilmsen, Martin, janitor, Chicago.

Woods, William T., stockman and night checker of instruments, Chicago.

#### MICHIGAN STATE TELEPHONE COMPANY.

The following employes of the Michigan State Telephone Company have been enlisted in the Signal Reserve Corps, in addition to those whose names were listed in the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS for June:

Bishop, Allie J., toll repairman, Marquette.

Burton, George Tremble, clerk in collection dept., Detroit.

Collins, Herbert Wesley, night tester, Detroit.

Eastland, Roy Herman, chauffeur, Detroit.

Goss, William Earl, lineman, Rapid City.  
Heinzelman, Willis, general clerk, Grand Rapids.

Harper, Robert W., asst. equipment engineer, Detroit.

Heffran, Homer Joseph, night switchboard man, Detroit.

Johnston, Alex, toll line repairman, Yale.

Jackson, Harry Webster, tester, East exchange, Detroit.

Klix, Gerhardt John, head clerk in credit section of acct. dept., Detroit.

Reed, George Alvin, switchboard man, Detroit.

Rogers, Fred William, switchboard man, Detroit.

Rough, William Henry, installer, Detroit.

Wardell, Claude, P. B. X. inspector, Detroit.

#### THE CLEVELAND TELEPHONE COMPANY.

The following employes of the Cleveland Telephone Company have been enlisted in the Signal Reserve Corps, in addition to those whose names were listed in the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS of June:

Buckley, John James, lineman.

Barnum, Raymond Vincent, frame man.

Benner, Harry Lee, lineman.

Campbell, John Joseph, frame man.

Conway, Edwin S., comb. repairman.

Faflick, Carl, installer.

Griffiths, John Stanley, P. B. X. helper.

Holston, Clifford, service inspector.

Lacher, Harold, Cleveland Telephone Co.

Mylor, Clarence A., installer's helper.

Mylor, James Francis, installer.

Roonan, John Joseph, line foreman.

Turner, Laurence E., repairman.

Whittaker, J. John A., installer.

Walkup, Guy Leopold, switchboard wireman.

#### No Need to Worry

"Everything might be worse than it is," say the soldiers, and so they have composed a don't-worry statement. Every regiment has a different version, but always with the same basis. One version reads: "Of two things one is certain, either you are mobilized or you're not mobilized. If you are not mobilized, there is no need to worry; if you are mobilized, of two things one is certain, either you are behind the lines or you are on the front. If you are behind the lines, there is no need to worry. If you're on the front, of two things one is certain, either you're resting in a safe place or you're exposed to danger. If you're resting in a safe place, there is no need to worry; if you're exposed to danger, of two things one is certain, either you are wounded or you're not wounded. If you're not wounded, there is no need to worry. If you're wounded, one of two things is certain, either you're wounded seriously or you're wounded slightly. If you're wounded slightly, there is no need to worry. If you're wounded seriously, of two things one is certain, either you recover or you die. If you recover, there is no need to worry; if you die you can't worry."

## Exemption of Telephone Men from Draft

That persons engaged in the business of communication, especially those in the employ of the telephone and telegraph companies, will be exempt from war draft is a matter which is practically assured. The great need of proper facilities of communication to the government is apparent. An explanation of the reasons for which the government is making extra demands on telephone and telegraph companies is contained in the statement issued by the Council of National Defense June 9th:

"The right arm of successful military operations," the council states, "is ability to communicate rapidly and maintain that communication. This is virtually necessary in preparation, no less than during actual operations. To that end the Council of National Defense has been coöperating with the various telephone and telegraph companies. It has received very hearty assistance, and a statement just made by the committee on communications of the advisory commission of the Council of National Defense gives an idea of the extent of that help.

"At the inception of the war in Europe there were some outlying places not connected by long lines capable of commercial transmission of telephone messages. Since then the American Telephone & Telegraph Company has extended its lines across the continent, and so improved transmission that it is now possible to communicate by long-distance telephone with any section of the United States. As an instance, may be cited the new line down the east coast to Key West, Florida, which will probably

not be commercially self-sustaining for many years, if then, but it was done in anticipation of the needs of the government, and the strategic importance of having not only the whole Atlantic coast, but the entire country, in speaking distance of Washington.

"All governmental messages and business are being handled on a preferential basis, with right of way over commercial messages. This enables the government to instantly command approximately 20,000,000 miles of exchange and toll lines which connect over 10,000,000 telephone stations.

These include the private branch exchanges of all great utility, industrial and



CAPTAIN H. C. RIDGEWAY,

Chicago telephone man, officer of Illinois National Guard now in the Federal Service. During a recent riot at one of the state prisons Captain Ridgeway saved the life of his commanding officer from a murderous assault.

transportation companies; all the great commercial and financial establishments of the United States. Thus the government officials have almost instantaneous access to every center of activity. These toll and long-distance wires reach every town, hamlet and cross roads of any importance.

"As a means of insurance against interruption, there are many alternative routes between the important points of the country, and these could be used almost instantly for communication between any two points, should an interruption occur because of flood, storm, or even foreign occupation. Therefore, it appears impossible to cut off communication between any two important points for even a negligible space of time."

## "Milling Around"

Some of the sanest advice that has come to the American people since we have taken the field as one of the champions of democracy has come from Howard E. Coffin, of the advisory commission of the Council for National Defense. And Mr. Coffin has said nothing wiser than his recent warning against a "disastrous stampede of misguided patriotism."

Mr. Coffin has noted a feverish effort on the part of certain organizations to "save the country overnight." Patriotic groups, more or less loosely held together, are "milling around" and hysterical demands of this, that, and the other thing, many of them impractical and unnecessary, fill the public prints and sound from a thousand platforms.

This is not a time for hysteria, but for coolness. It is not a time for "milling

around," as a herd of wild steers mills, but for standing steady and waiting the word of command. It is a time in which, true, we should practice economy, but it is also a time in which we should be more than ever prolific and efficient in industry and commerce.

"Be ye not whirled about," said Epictetus. This is uncommonly good advice for us just now, and none the less valuable because of its age.

## "News" at Officers' Camp

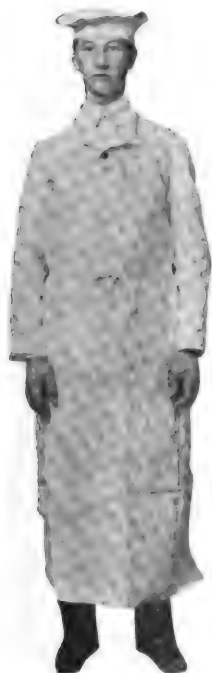
The publicity department at Chicago is represented at the officers' training camp at Fort Sheridan by Paul E. Behrens, who was assistant to the editor of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS. The experience he has gained in wrestling with "copy" and fighting with printers, engravers, etc., gives him special qualifications for a position of leadership in our new army. Writing from the camp June 19th, Mr. Behrens says:

"I am no longer an infantryman. When it was announced that the cavalry would not be used as such, I asked to be transferred to the field artillery. Last Friday I received my assignment to Battery No. 3 and am now studying horses, harness, field gun mechanism, range, field telephony, wireless and a thousand other things that an artillery officer must know. It is hard, though exceedingly interesting work. Our week is from ten to fifteen hours longer than that of the infantry, but the nature of the work compensates for the additional time."

"Before long we shall be training the new army. It will then be only a few months until we shall lead that army across France, through Belgium and into Germany. It will not be we ourselves who shall see Berlin, but those who follow us. Few of the first army will get that far. But if our passing will so bring the war home to Americans that they will rise up and fight as the French have done, it will be worth the cost. Only when this nation is aroused can the world begin to think about peace. We as a people are not yet awakened to a realization of the size of the job we have tackled. When we do become aware of it, we shall forget everything but the doing of it. May that day come soon!"

## Illness of Mr. McGovern

W. R. McGovern, chief engineer of the central group of Bell Telephone companies, was suddenly stricken with appendicitis, about midnight, June 1st. He was hurried to the Ravenswood Hospital, and an operation was performed at five o'clock the next morning. The operation was entirely successful, and at this writing Mr. McGovern is on the rapid road to recovery. It will necessarily be several weeks, however, before he will be able to return to his desk.



EMIL A. KRUEGER  
of Wisconsin

Mr. Krueger has enlisted in the Signal Corps. He is an expert chef and probably will be assigned to that form of duty.

### Sales of Liberty Bonds

Bell Telephone employes throughout the country responded generously and patriotically to the call of the government asking subscriptions to the great Liberty Loan. The table on this page shows in detail the subscriptions made by employes of the central group and the total is astonishing.

Joint employes of the four companies head the list. Of these, 69.26 per cent. subscribed for bonds. The average for the four companies and the joint employes was 40.33 per cent. The total number of bonds subscribed for was 13,205 and the total amount in par value of bonds represented by these subscriptions was \$777,050.

An incomplete tabulation indicated that the total amount subscribed for throughout the country, under the plan which allows employes to pay for their bonds in installments, was \$3,775,200. The average amount subscribed for by each employe was \$71.40.

Owing to the tremendous success of the plan which resulted in almost an avalanche of subscriptions, it was not possible to begin making the deductions from the salaries of the employes with the middle of the June period, as had been intended. The first deductions were made from salaries paid on or about July 1st. The date when the bonds will be fully paid for will therefore be advanced one-half month.

### Far-Reaching Plans of Red Cross War Council

Henry P. Davison, chairman of the Red Cross War Council, has given out the following letter to Seward Prosser, chairman of the Red Cross finance committee, 42 Wall street, New York City:

"Dear Mr. Prosser: The question is frequently asked just what is the Red Cross going to undertake and what argument can be used in soliciting contributions for the \$100,000,000 Red Cross war fund — a very natural question. My answer is as follows:

"Given the greatest war the world has known, now entering the last month of its third year on the one hand, the American Red Cross on the other. What is the Red Cross going to do?

"The first thing it is going to do is to effect the most effi-

cient organization possible. The President has appointed a war council, which council has assumed the responsibility of effecting this organization. It is developing plans which involve the selection of the best talent in the United States in medicine, in sanitation, in transportation, in construction, in welfare work, in purchasing, in commercial business, in accounting, and in such other lines as may be required in an undertaking of this magnitude. Ordinarily it would be difficult to employ trained talent of the character required. Men would not be available, but it has already been demonstrated beyond any concern on the part of the council that the best talent is available, and most of it volunteer, so that in whatever direction it may be necessary to move, the work may be carried on intelligently, efficiently, and economically.

"The desire of the war council is for immediate action, to be as efficiently and economically executed as possible. By reason of the co-operative spirit of the public it is believed that the overhead charges in the administration of this work will be comparatively low. Only a small percentage of each dollar contributed will be required to carry the relief to its destination.

"Next we shall continue organizing base hospitals with personnel and full equipment in order that they may be turned over to the Army upon a day's notice for transport to France. At the same time we will proceed to organize such units to be stationed at the mobilization camps of our soldiers and our sailors in this country as may be desired by the surgeon generals of the Army and Navy. Also we shall proceed with the purchasing, collection, shipment, and storing of such supplies as may be necessary or even precautionary, to be immediately available.

"If we secure the subscription, we shall purchase, equip, and man hospital ships; we shall organize and maintain a sanitary engineering corps, to be subject to the call of the Army or Navy. In fact, we should be prepared to meet every emergency in connection with the needs of our soldiers and sailors in this country when called upon by the Army and the Navy, it being understood that our work in this particular is supplemental to that of those departments of our government.

"How much is this going to cost? No one can tell, because no one as yet knows whether we are to have 500,000 men or 2,000,000 men, or more, mobilized and going forward to the line of battle. The foregoing, you will note, treats only with the military necessities, and not with the civilian relief in our own country, to which, important as it is, I make no reference in this statement.

"This same service we propose to render through the Red Cross to American soldiers and sailors abroad, not merely to protect them in health and to maintain them as effective fighting men, but to look after their comfort and happiness while they are on leave. The Red Cross must act as a foster parent to these young soldiers of America 3,000 miles from their homes.

"Beyond the military and civilian needs of our own people we must undertake a larger humanitarian work to aid our allies. This work the Red Cross has already started by sending a commission to Europe.

"In addition, the question is asked by some, 'Why does not the Government do this work?' The answer is that in the main by its very nature such work can not be administered by a government. Due to the recognition of that fact the Red Cross under the Geneva charter became the recog-

nized voluntary international agency of the various countries of the world to be the instrument through which the work should be done. At the request of the American people the Red Cross by reason of its being a voluntary organization free from the necessary governmental restrictions, can at once operate for the protection and saving of countless lives and in assisting to win this war.

"Very truly yours,  
"H. P. DAVISON,  
"Chairman, Red Cross War Council."

### ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF LIBERTY BOND SALES TO EMPLOYEES OF CENTRAL GROUP OF BELL TELEPHONE COMPANIES

Bonds Subscribed for to be paid in Installments—	\$50	\$100	\$500	\$1,000	Total.
Chicago Telephone Company (City) .....	5,908	426	1	..	\$338,500.00
Chicago Telephone Company (Sub.) .....	830	84	3	..	51,400.00
Wisconsin Telephone Company .....	615	56	1	..	36,850.00
The Cleveland Telephone Company .....	1,171	96	..	..	68,150.00
Michigan State Telephone Company .....	4,172	161	2	..	225,700.00
Joint (four companies) .....	178	74	5	5	23,800.00
<b>Total Installment .....</b>	<b>12,874</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$744,400.00</b>
Bonds Subscribed for to be paid in Cash—					
Chicago Telephone Company (City) .....	192	88	3	..	20,300.00
Chicago Telephone Company (City) .....		4*			
		92			
Chicago Telephone Company (Sub.) .....	..	2	2	..	1,850.00
Wisconsin Telephone Company .....	13	..	..	..	2,750.00
The Cleveland Telephone Company .....	31	6	..	..	
The Cleveland Telephone Company .....		6*			
		12			
Michigan State Telephone Company .....	71	3	..	..	4,650.00
Michigan State Telephone Company .....		8*			
		11			
Joint (four companies) .....	24	9	..	1	3,100.00
<b>Total Cash .....</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$ 32,650.00</b>
<b>Grand Total (Installment and Cash) .....</b>	<b>13,205</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$777,050.00</b>

\*Registered.



## FEMININE INTEREST CENTERS IN FASHIONS OF THE SEASON

*Dark Colors Taboo Among Those Who Would Face Our National Crisis with Bravery and Dignity—Some Dainty New Models.*



**FASHION AUTHORITIES DECLARE THAT PRETTY FROCKS HELP TO KEEP HEARTS BRAVE.**

*Pretty frocks designed to keep the hearts of the girls who are left behind happy and brave. The first is in cream colored foulard, the second in blue taffeta and braid, the third in blue foulard trimmed with white organdy and the fourth in striped gingham.*

**By Maude Hall**

Another way by which the women of the country can be of assistance in this hour of trouble is to refrain from wearing clothes of mourning effect.

"No one is 'wearing her heart on her

### Patterns for Bell News Designs

The designs shown on this page are supplied by The Pictorial Review, New York. Patterns may be secured from any Pictorial Review agency.

sleeve' because the country is plunged into war," said one of the great designers a few days ago. "American women are facing the situation bravely and their clothes during the coming season will reflect their splendid spirit."

Therefore feminine interest just now centers in fashions appropriate for the season. Fewer dark dresses are displayed in smart shops than were seen a few months ago, and combinations are as highly favored as ever they were.

Woolen materials are getting scarcer every day and it is predicted that before many months the handsomest of silks will be much cheaper than the most ordinary of woollens. For the average woman there is nothing like foulard, because it is thoroughbred in appearance, without costing more than one feels that it is wise to spend on a frock for general wear.

Perhaps the smartest of the light colors in foulard is sand, but there are delightful tones in the kindred shades of beige, maize, champagne and ochre. Dots of one sort or another are always among the best of the foulard designs and white with dark blue or vice versa never fails to prove a favorite. Whether it is smart looking or not depends, of course, upon the manner in which it is handled, but this season there are numerous simple models that have a modish air.

Particularly chic is an afternoon design in white foulard combined with the same silk in dot effect. In addition to the dots satin threads are woven through the foulard in winding effect, giving an unusually novel pattern. The dress closes to the left of the front under a box plait and a collar to correspond with the skirt and sleeves finishes the square neck. The front panel is of dotted foulard and the lower edge of the gathered skirt is trimmed with a deep band of the same. The sleeves are loose and open, and despite their lack of trimming, are incredibly chic. A sash belt of the white foulard holds in the fullness at the waist.

There is nothing more fashionable than oyster white foulard—unless it be egg shell white. The silk is used for a charming dinner frock having the front and back gathered to a square yoke. The skirt is a four-piece model, being gathered and attached to the waist slightly above normal. At the sides there are large pockets, so near beach-bag proportions that they resemble draperies.

A model designed upon new lines especially for mid-summer service is effectively developed in pale rose voile trimmed with that most favored of laces—filet. A band of the trimming appears on the skirt above the deep hem, also on the flowing sleeves. Filet forms the collar and trimming for pockets. Satin binds the large armholes of the waist, to which a two-piece skirt is attached under a straight band of black velvet ribbon. Filet in every description is in monstrous demand this season. In bandings for use on collars and hip-bits, and in the coarser quality, it has attained flattering success. A new idea is pastel colored filet laces. Many evidences of this novelty have been noticed. This effect is attained by embroidering the lace in the shades desired.

### Chicago Operator Joins Navy

"Gee, I wish I were a man! I would join the Navy." Such is the wording of the handsome poster spread over the United States Navy and doubtless many an enthusiastic young woman has admired the dashing figure on the poster and secretly echoed the printed sentiment.

With one Chicago young woman, however, the wish has become a reality. Mrs. Luella Sonnenberg, one time Chicago Tele-



MRS. LUELLA SONNENBERG.

phone operator, is now an enlisted member of Uncle Sam's sea forces and incidentally is one of the busiest young women in the United States. She ranks as a first class yeoman and draws the pay of that rank. She is the first woman in the Central States to join the navy and the second in the whole country.

When the war began there was an immediate need for more operating help at the Federal Building, and Mrs. Sonnenberg was one of the Chicago Telephone Company's expert operators selected for this important work. On May 31, 1917, there was a call for a relief operator to serve in the office of George C. Isbester, paymaster for the navy, located in the Commonwealth Edison Building. Mrs. Sonnenberg went over and immediately made good, in fact she made good so thoroughly that Paymaster Isbester and his force made up their minds that they wanted her to stay. In order to do this, however, she must be a member of the navy, as this is one of the imperative regulations. When the matter was broached to Mrs. Sonnenberg, she accepted with alacrity. After an interview with Captain W. E. Moffatt she decided to enlist, and accordingly was enrolled and sworn in at 619 South State street, in exactly the same manner as any other recruit.

"It was very exciting," said Mrs. Sonnenberg to a representative of the BELL TELEPHONE NEWS. "Why they even took my finger prints, and I suppose that now when I want to commit a dark crime I shall have to wear gloves, as I am on record."

"My mother," she continued, "like all patriotic mothers was lamenting the fact that, inasmuch as her family consisted of five girls and one boy, the boy too young for service, she had no one to offer to her country. However, while she was away I stole a march on her, and when she returned she found out I had joined the navy, so after all she can be numbered among the patriotic mothers who have children in the service."

Mrs. Sonnenberg's term of enlistment is for four years. If peace should be declared before that time, she will be discharged subject to call during the four years. She will wear the regulation middie blouse with her rating on her sleeve and the words "U. S. Naval Reserve Forces" on her hat. During the summer this blouse will be white. Her winter uniform will be blue flannel, the same as the men's. She had not yet received her uniform at the time of this interview and could hardly wait until it arrived.

Mrs. Sonnenberg began her telephone work at Lawndale office. For three years she was private branch exchange operator for the Chicago and North Western Railroad. She was reemployed by the Chicago Telephone Company April 11, 1917.

### At the Telephone

(With Apologies.)

Maude Muller on a summer day  
Called "Number, please?" in a courteous way.

Before her, numbers printed small,  
Fell down when anyone would call.

The judge took down his telephone  
And made to Maude his wishes known.

Said he, "I'll ask you just once more  
For four-eleven-forty-four."

Said Maude, as mild as summer seas  
"What number did you ask for, please?"

Said he, "I told you twice before,  
It's four-eleven-forty-four."

Said Maude, and you could see her smile,  
"Just hold the telephone a while."

A weary interval ensued;  
The wires hummed an interlude.

And broken bits of talk came o'er  
The telephone, and made the waiter sore.

The wishbone-shaped receiver hook  
He seized upon and wildly shook

Till Maude's voice he heard once more:  
"What number are you waiting for?"

The judge responded with a roar,  
"It's four-eleven-forty-four."

—By Brown Waggoner in *Southwestern Telephone News*.



# Safety First and Accident Prevention

Member National Safety Council  
Member American Museum of Safety



HE IS FREE FROM DANGER WHO, EVEN  
WHEN SAFE, IS ON HIS GUARD

A NATIONAL IDEAL PREVENT  
ALL UNNECESSARY ACCIDENTS

MOST ACCIDENTS HAPPEN THROUGH  
WANT OF A LITTLE CARE

## Blood Purifiers

By J. H. McCLELLAN, M. D.,  
Local Medical Director, Chicago Telephone  
Company

It used to be the fashion with our grandparents in the spring and early summer to assemble their families and dependents for a daily dose out of a big bottle labeled "Blood Purifier," and composed of sulphur and molasses or some other equally tasty concoction made after a recipe that was often a family heirloom. During these times doctors were scarce, and their patients were scattered over a wide territory. The doctor was not called except in cases of serious illness, for the mother of the family was equal to the management of minor complaints and small emergencies. Spring was the time for a general house cleaning which extended from the attic to the cellar and included the human occupants. A course of "blood medicine" in the spring was supposed to put the human body in order and make it less liable to attack by such popular ailments as malaria, rheumatism, etc.

Although we have learned a great deal since those days and almost every one now knows that to prevent malaria we must fight the mosquito; to cure rheumatism we must find the weak spot where the germ has entered the body and clean it up, the old superstition about blood purifiers has not yet disappeared. There are still plenty of people who have fixed in their minds the idea that in the spring their blood is "too thick," and medicine must be taken to "thin it out;" or that it is too thin and must be built up by a tonic. A simple ache of the face or the frequent occurrence of boils on the back of the neck are interpreted as meaning "impure blood," while in reality the trouble may be only skin deep. Proper exercise, regular bathing and a well ordered diet may do much to clear up an ache by making the skin healthy and resistant to infection. A dirty collar rubbing germs into the roots of the hairs is often the immediate cause of boils. Many people are content in the belief that the skin eruptions which often appear during a course of "blood tonic" mean that the "bad blood" is coming out, when as a matter of fact the "tonic" itself is directly

responsible, especially if it contains iodide of potash, a drug which we know frequently causes such eruptions. Instead of the mother of the family then dispensing the magic dose, the corner druggist is often sought out and asked to "recommend a good spring tonic," and the patent medicine has replaced the more or less harmless family prescription. The fortunes made by the exploiters of patent medicines are lasting witnesses to the simple credulity of the public.

We may say then in the first place there is no such thing as a general blood purifier for the simple reason that the diseases in which the blood plays a part are so numerous and arise from so many different causes that no one remedy can be applied with success to them all. Our school physiologies teach us that the blood is a fluid which is pumped over the body by the heart. Its function is to bring food to all parts of the body and carry away the waste materials which accumulate while the body is at work. The blood is made up of two parts; one, the fluid part, which contains the food substances, the other, the solid particles or corpuscles, which are suspended in the liquid portion. The red corpuscles bear the oxygen to all parts of the body where the food is burned. The white corpuscles are the scavengers of the body, whose duty is to resist the invasion of hostile germs whenever they attempt to gain a foothold in any part of the body. In health, the body maintains a fixed and definite proportion so far as these corpuscles are concerned. The red corpuscles are kept at somewhere between four and five million per cubic millimeter. The white corpuscles are much fewer in number, about seven thousand per cubic millimeter. If a large quantity of blood is lost, for example, by hemorrhage as the result of an accident, it does not take the body long to manufacture more corpuscles until the normal number is restored. In sickness, however, the normal proportion is often changed, and for this reason a careful examination of the blood is often necessary in determining what is really wrong with the person, i. e., making a correct diagnosis. For example, the red corpuscles carry oxygen to all parts of the body by means of a substance which is called hemoglobin and which makes the

blood red. When each corpuscle contains less hemoglobin than it should, or when there are fewer corpuscles than there should be, the person is said to be anemic, or suffering from anemia. From this it is evident that anemia is merely a symptom, and we should seek further to find the underlying cause of this symptom. For example, among the diseases in which we find anemia present may be mentioned first those in which the body is invaded by animal parasites, such as malaria, in which the parasite actually enters the red blood corpuscle and destroys it, and others like the intestinal parasites which lie in the intestines and produce poison which destroy the blood corpuscles. Secondly, are those diseases in which the body is invaded by bacteria, such as typhoid fever, tonsillitis, etc. In diseases of this kind there is an actual change in the character of the blood, a change which can be mechanically demonstrated and measured by an instrument devised for this purpose. When a man is told that he is anemic, he has the right to ask "how much and why."

The white corpuscles are equally important in many cases in determining what is wrong with the patient. In some diseases, such as tonsillitis, scarlet fever, appendicitis, etc., the number of the white corpuscles is greatly increased so that there may be found two or three times the normal number. In other infections as malaria, typhoid fever, etc., the number is usually diminished. For this reason a blood count should always be made when the diagnosis is in doubt. This so-called white blood count is now recognized everywhere to be of so great importance that in all of the best hospitals it is done as a routine on every patient as soon as he enters, no matter what his symptoms are.

Remember, then, that the blood purifiers are old fashioned and out of date. We should keep abreast with the times, at least in matters which concern our bodily health.

## Some April Accidents

As food for thought, indicating some of the things to be looked for and to be guarded against in preventing preventable accidents, some of the accidents reported by Chicago Telephone Company employes are quoted. While it may not be fair to say in every case that the accident was due to

carelessness, it will probably be admitted by all that the accidents were preventable and unnecessary. No one wants to be injured, yet as these and many of the other accidents already referred to in previous articles on the subject shows that we are, many of us, thoughtless, and in some instances, decidedly careless. Carelessness and the telephone business are incompatible; thoughtlessness, often equally dangerous, is a decidedly undesirable characteristic in earnest telephone men and women.

An installer was standing on a fourteen-foot ladder (a borrowed ladder) running a line to a new terminal when the ladder shipped from under him, and he fell a distance of about twelve feet.

A repairman while riding a motorcycle rounded a corner and collided with a light delivery car which was being driven on the wrong side of the street.

A suburban lineman was on a pole which was rotten at the ground line. He was untying wires, transferring from Nos. 1 and 2 to Nos. 7 and 8. When the last wire was untied the pole broke and fell.

A chauffeur on an auto truck stalled his engine in attempting to avoid an accident. He got out and went on the left, or traffic side, of the machine to prime the carburetor. A street car going in the opposite direction struck him and threw him down.

An installer was working on a two-piece extension ladder taking down a wall iron. He had cut one of the bolts and was about to cut the other one when the wall iron, drawn by the drop still attached, pulled loose from the wall and pulled him from the ladder, causing him to fall to the ground.

An installer while descending a pole after reaching the lowest step used his spurs to get to the ground. After making his first step his spur cut out and he fell to the ground.

An operator slipped on an apple core lying on the floor of a locker room and fell, injuring her left elbow.

A watchman as he straightened up after getting a shovel full of coal from a coal bin, struck his head against a bolt projecting from a temporary scaffold, causing a scalp wound.

A shop foreman was supervising some work being done with an acetylene welder. When the workman was through he swung around, throwing the flame from the acetylene welder directly on the foreman.

A chauffeur had cranked his auto engine, and, while going around to the wheel, he ran into the wire attached to a post. The loose end of the wire caused a deep scratch.

A shopman was putting a new stake on a wagon. While doing so he stepped on the edge of the tail gate, which was closed, but not secured. The tail gate gave way, causing him to lose his balance, fall, and injure his leg.

A cable helper while picking up old junk ran his finger against the sharp corner of

lead armor, removing some skin.

A chauffeur was loading junk armor on to a truck when a piece of solder weighing about thirty-five pounds fell out of a bag and struck his right foot.

A stockman was lighting a gasoline furnace when the match he was using set fire to a bandage he had on his left hand, causing a burn.

A lineman was working on a pole and while attaching a wire to a broken insulator cut a gash in the thumb of his right hand.

A line installer while walking through a yard stepped on a nail projecting from a board lying on the ground.

### Jay Walkers

It is a natural impulse in going from one place to another, to take the shortest possible route, and unless we have the careful habit, this impulse may lead us into dangerous places. Probably the commonest form of danger into which this impulse leads us is that of crossing a busy street between the regular street crossings. It is never safe to do this as long as there are any moving vehicles in the street, and it is particularly dangerous to cross downtown streets or streets on which the traffic is heavy.

In spite of the best efforts of careful automobile drivers, it is frequently impossible to stop in time to avoid an accident, when a pedestrian darts from behind a standing automobile or some other hiding place and starts across the path of the on coming machine. If this is true, and all drivers will admit it, the danger of doing this sort of thing must be perfectly apparent when we consider the number of careless, thoughtless or incompetent automobile drivers there are using the streets and boulevards.

In case of an accident of this kind, the driver should not be blamed for the accident, for unless he is speeding he has the right of way, and the injured person should have crossed the street at the proper crossing.

A Jay Walker is one who crosses the streets or boulevards at other than the regular crossing place. Jay Walkers are very frequently injured, as is proved by a perusal of the daily newspapers.

Don't be a JAY WALKER.

### Accident Prevention Trophies

The standing of the various districts in the three divisions of the Chicago plant department are as follows:

#### Suburban Plant

Place	District
1.....	Waukegan
2.....	Elgin
3.....	Woodstock
4.....	Evanston
5.....	Joliet
6.....	LaGrange
7.....	Oak Park

8.....	Special Estimate
9.....	Hammond
10.....	Harvey
11.....	Aurora
12.....	Wheaton

#### Construction

1.....	South Construction
2.....	North Construction
3.....	Supplies
4.....	Building Cabling
5.....	Shops
6.....	Cable Repair
7.....	Garage
8.....	Central Construction

#### Maintenance

1.....	Canal
2.....	Beverly
3.....	Main
4.....	Central
5.....	Wabash
6.....	Austin
7.....	Rogers Park
8.....	Monroe
9.....	Douglas
10.....	Hyde Park
11.....	Wentworth
12.....	Edgewater
13.....	Superior
14.....	Stewart
15.....	Lake View
16.....	Humboldt
17.....	Oakland
18.....	Pullman
19.....	South Chicago
20.....	Calumet
21.....	Kedzie
22.....	West
23.....	Lincoln
24.....	Prospect
25.....	Irving
26.....	Yards
27.....	Belmont
28.....	Lawndale

The heads of the districts in first place in each division are: C. T. Ford, Waukegan; H. Strout, South Construction and A. Cerney of Canal.

### Nevertheless, We Love It

A newspaper exchange gives this definition of an automobile:

"The automobile is a large iron and rubber contrivance for transforming gasoline into speed, luxury, excitement and obituaries. It consists of a handsome leather-upholstered carriage body mounted on fat rubber-tired wheels and containing a giz-zard full of machinery suffering from various ailments. It has run over 100 miles and ten thousand people. It can transport seven people from the front porch to the police station, the bankruptcy court or the golden gates in less time than any other known method."

### A Word of Warning

Pat (to Mike on the roof)—"Don't come down the ladder at the northeast corner. I took it away."



## WABASH 640

will put you in touch with personal and experienced insurance service for getting most reasonable rates and broadest protection for your property, household goods, automobile, baggage and jewelry against fire and theft.

Get our advice—our firm is manager of the insurance department of the A. T. & T. Co.

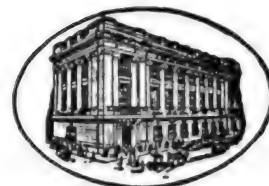
## MARSH & McLENNAN

INSURANCE IN ALL ITS BRANCHES  
INSURANCE EXCHANGE  
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## Discipline and Reward

**S**AVING money is discipline. But more than that, it is one of the greatest rewards of discipline. Few things which require as little sacrifice bring such definite gain.

If you have never tried it, see for yourself. Open a savings account in this bank. 3% interest paid on savings deposits.



## THE NORTHERN TRUST CO-BANK

N. W. COR. LA SALLE & MONROE STS.  
Capital \$2,000,000      Surplus \$1,500,000

# MACK TRUCKS

This MACK worm drive truck is one of a number of MACK Trucks in the Chicago Telephone Company service.

MACK truck construction embodies the happy combination of simplicity and ruggedness, with all motor parts accessible and easily removable, with large bearings and especially heat treated steel, insuring long operation with a minimum of overhaul costs.

*Write for Specifications*

Complete Line of  
MACK TRUCKS  
1 to 7½ Tons

**International Motor Co.**  
**NEW YORK**



### State Control Fails

All the larger republics of South America at some time have tried government ownership of railways. Most of them have abandoned the policy as a failure. Why, is shown in an illuminating analysis of South American railways by Lionel Wiener, now appearing in the *British Railway Gazette* of London:

"One and all have shown the same results, owing mainly to the creeping in of politics in their management; too many employés that it has been deemed unavoidable to discharge; bad service and rolling stock that careless management has allowed to decay; construction of expensive, unnecessary lines; costly exploitation, yielding an annual deficit."

Probably no quarter of the world so well as South America enables close comparison between state and private operation under similar conditions, sometimes the comparison being possible on one and the same railway. The Sobral Railway of Brazil, opened by the government in 1883, operated at a steady deficit up to October 31, 1897, when it was taken over by a private company. From the date of the transfer it has shown a handsome profit, the constant deficit being turned to a profit even in the two months of 1897 remaining after the transfer. The Porto Alegre Railway of Brazil was operated by the government from 1883 to 1891 at a deficit. It was then taken over by a company which by 1904

had reduced the working percentage to 75.42.

To-day the Central of Brazil Railway is the principal Brazilian railway under government operation. For every \$100 of its revenue the expense of operation of this line rose from \$96.70 in 1907 to \$136.90 in 1911, dropping to \$126.20 in 1912. In 1908, while this government railway was spending \$105.50 to earn \$100 gross revenues, the three neighboring private railways spent respectively \$45.90, \$54.20 and \$56.30 for each \$100 revenue. The army of unnecessary employés is blamed for the state railway's persistent and growing deficits. "Such a system as the Central of Brazil is an excellent electioneering instrument in the hands of government," says the author, "and, despite the annual deficit, not likely to be relinquished."

Chile has had a similar experience. The Chilean state system contrasted as follows in 1907 and 1910 with the private railways in the amount spent for each \$100 gross revenues:

	1910	1907
State railways .....	\$121	\$163
Tacna arica .....	60	68
Iquique .....	47	47
Antofagasta .....	67	64
Taltal .....	54	61
Curanilahue .....	55	55
Paulista .....	45	41

Peru's record is even worse. After starting a number of costly lines the government defaulted and handed the system over for operation by the Peruvian Corporation.

Argentina, the only other South American country retaining any considerable mileage under government operation, is contemplating lease of the greater portion to a private company. — Chicago *Evening Post*, June 13, 1917.

### Dangers in Public Ownership

Plans to utilize most efficiently all of the railroads of the country, regardless of whom they belong to, have been formulated by the National Council of Defense, but the question arises: "Are the facilities now in existence adequate to handle such a movement? Are there sufficient terminals where these trains may be transferred from one railroad to another or where the men may receive sufficient food supplies and hospital supplies needed en route? You can see what absolutely vital national importance attaches to this question of adequate railway facilities.

If, as I have said, the railways are the arteries and life-blood of the commerce of the United States, is it not time that we were inquiring about our blood-pressure? We find the railroads hampered by restrictions, interference, unfriendly public attitude, by commissions, by legislators, etc., all of which prevents the blood from circulating healthily, and thus the investors are afraid that the patient is too sick to justify their risking their money on him. They realize that unless the Federal authority shall take precedence over the conflicting state authorities on those many subjects in which such regulations affect interstate business, that there can be but one possible result, namely, government ownership.

### Government Ownership

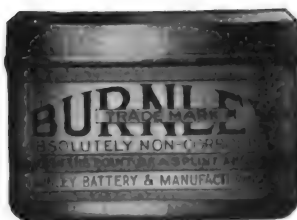
I can't think of anything worse for the country, and for its railroads, than government ownership. It would build up the most powerful political machine that the world has ever conceived. Our experience in the operation of other governmental facilities, factories and such institutions does not encourage us to believe that government ownership of railroads would produce efficient organizations, and therefore the railroads themselves would not be as successful as to-day, with the inevitable result that the people of the country would have to make up the ever-increasing deficit. If the government owned the railroads and they found their receipts inadequate to meet their expenditures, they would of course advance their rates to whatever point was required.

Hence it would seem common sense for the people of the country to insist on such increases in rates, now, as will produce adequate revenues under present wonderfully efficient management, because if they do not, and government ownership is forced, then those rates will arbitrarily be raised vastly higher in order to produce sufficient revenue under less efficient management.—George W. Simmons, Vice President, Simmons Hardware Company.

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Is a perfect Flux. Burnley Paste cannot spill out or drip away like liquid.



It stays where you put it and follows closely the hot iron.

Send for free sample.

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WESTERN ELECTRIC COMPANY  
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(See Cut)

is one of the  
"ANVIL BRAND" BLOCKS

Linesmen  
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### Bituminized Fiber Conduit

provides a practical, permanent and economical underground protective receptacle for your telephone cables.

Write for literature

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Pat. Aug. 19, 1913

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we claim that you  
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May we have the  
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Best by test.  
Increased efficiency of guying.  
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Results uniformly gratifying.  
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MANUFACTURED BY  
**The Specialty Device Company**  
Cincinnati, Ohio



A HAND  
PORTABLE  
WHICH IS SHOCK-PROOF

It is impossible to have short circuits, to blow  
fuses, or injure men or apparatus with a

**BENJAMIN FIBRE HAND PORTABLE**

Installed as an indispensable part of telephone  
equipment. All electrical dealers have them.

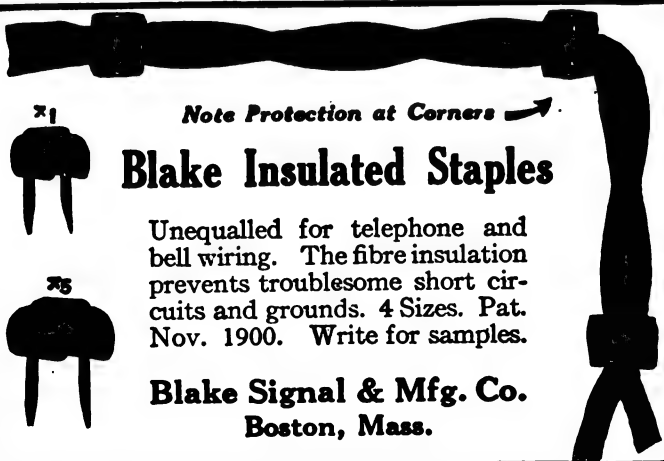
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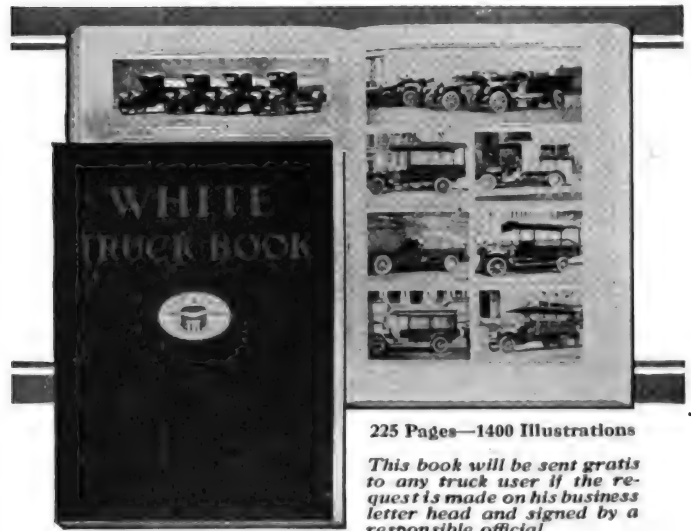


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**Blake Insulated Staples**

Unequaled for telephone and  
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**T**HIS new White Truck Book  
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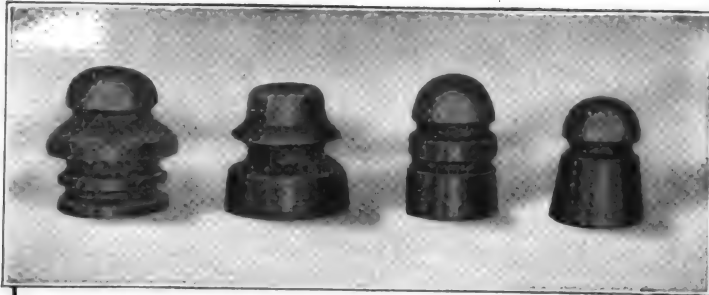
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High voltage power lines everywhere use porcelain insulators on account of their long life and reliability. Porcelain is stronger than glass, and also less hygroscopic. Why not secure these advantages for your telephone lines by specifying THOMAS porcelain insulators.

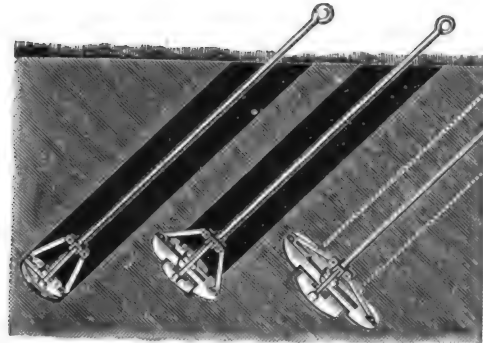
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are used by every Bell Telephone Co. in the United States except one. We feel this one has made a mistake. Lighting Companies and Electric Railway Companies not using Everstick Anchors have also made a like mistake, for there is but one best Anchor.

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Fig. 1—Represents Anchor Placed at bottom of hole.  
Fig. 2—Partially Expanded. Fig. 3—Fully Expanded.

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We Guarantee  
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Longest Life  
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Write for **FREE SAMPLE**  
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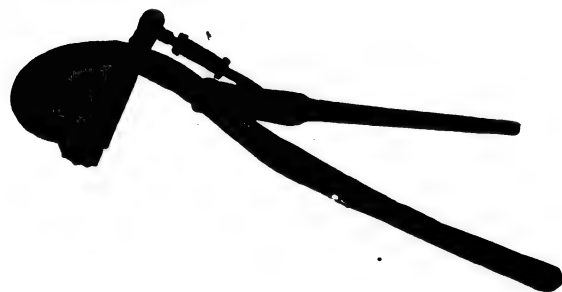


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## DIAMOND CRIMPER

For Securely Crimping Aerial Rings  
to Suspension Strands



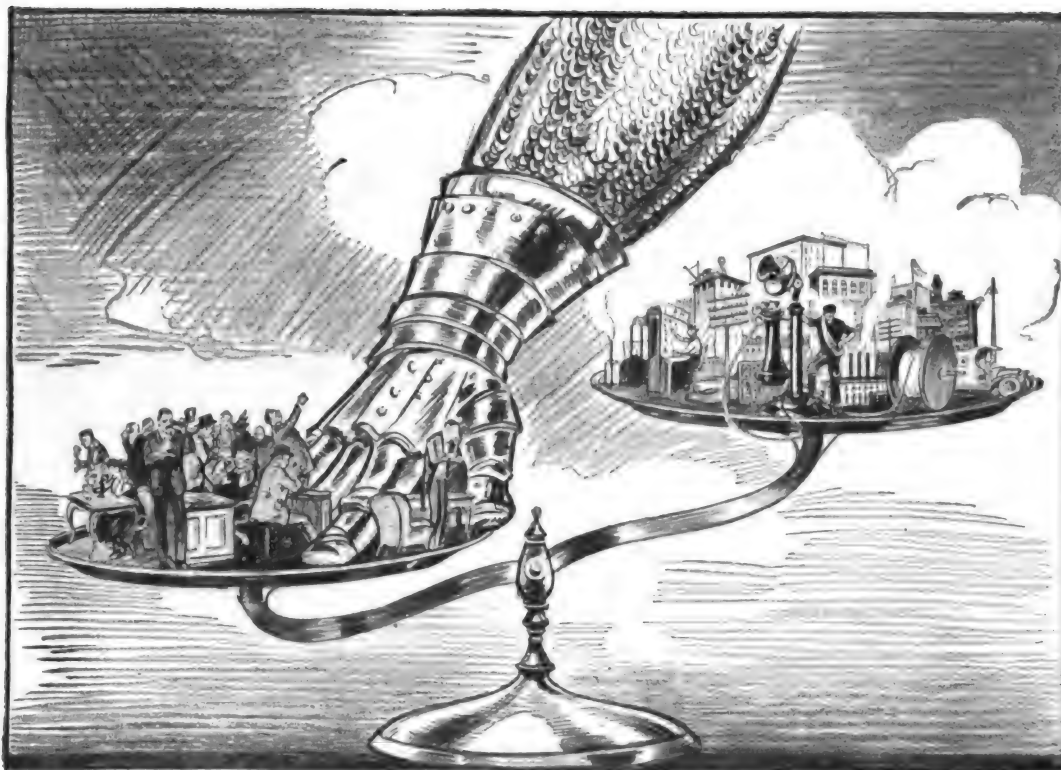
### Enormous Power

Convenience in operation is one of the principal points considered in the design of this tool.

Each tool furnished with three sets of case hardened jaws to suit different diameters of messenger strand.

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## The Weight of War

The heavy hand of war has disturbed the balance between supply and demand the world over. Our problem of serving the public has all at once assumed a new and weightier aspect.

Extraordinary demands on telephone service by the Government have been made and are being met. Equipment must be provided for the great training camps, the coast-defense stations must be linked together by means of communication, and the facilities perfected to put the Government in touch with the entire country at a moment's notice.

In planning for additions to the plant of the Bell System for 1917, one hundred and thirty millions of dollars were apportioned.

This is by far the largest program ever undertaken.

But the cost of raw materials has doubled in a year. Adequate supplies of copper, lead, wire, steel and other essentials of new equipment are becoming harder to get at any price, for the demands of war must be met.

Under the pressure of business incident to war, the telephone-using public must co-operate in order that our new plans to meet the extraordinary growth in telephone stations and traffic may be made adequate.

The elimination of unnecessary telephone calls is a patriotic duty just as is the elimination of all waste at such a time. Your Government must have a "clear talk track."



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AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES**

***One Policy***

***One System***

***Universal Service***













